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Der Präsident des Europäischen Patentamts;
Im Auftrag

For the President of the European Patent Office

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Mammalian ICYP (Iodocyanopindolol) receptor and its applications

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**The original title of the invention reads as follows :
"Novel ICYP binding mammalian polypeptide receptor (SMBP) and its applications".**

3

NOVEL ICYP BINDING MAMMALIAN POLYPEPTIDE RECEPTOR (SMBP) AND ITS APPLICATIONS.

The present invention relates to an isolated and substantially pure mammal polypeptide different from known adrenergic, serotonin and dopamine
5 receptors, existing at least on mammalian muscle and eosinophils membranes, for instance in rat, guinea pig and humans.

The invention also relates:

to plasmids containing the genes coding for said polypeptide,

to host cells transformed by genes coding for the above mentioned
10 polypeptide,

to nucleotide probes capable of hybridizing with the genes coding for the above mentioned polypeptide, and

to polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies directed against the above mentioned polypeptide and which can be used for the purpose of *in vitro* diagnosis,

15 A wide variety of membrane receptors for hormones and neurotransmitters are composed of a single polypeptide chain containing seven hydrophilic sequences and may be coupled to guanine-nucleotide-binding regulatory G proteins, which upon activation by agonists or antagonists, stimulate or inhibit various effectors such as enzymes or ion channels.

20 Among the family of seven transmembrane domains receptors are those for adrenaline and other catecholamines, the adrenergic receptors and those for acetylcholine and related muscarinic ligands, the muscarinic cholinergic receptors. Other similar proteins belonging to this growing family are those for serotonin, for dopamine, for tachykinins and for the pituitary glycoprotein hormones, to mention but a few.

25 The existence of atypical adrenergic receptors (AR), in adipocytes, in gastrointestinal tissues and in skeletal muscles has been well-established. Atypical β -adrenergic receptors (β -ARs) are defined as β -AR that can not be classified as typical β -ARs (β 1-AR and β 2-AR) with low β -AR antagonist effect, showing a propranolol (a classical non-selective β -AR antagonist)-resistant feature.

For instance, McLaughlin, MacDonald and co-workers characterized β -AR in rat colon (McLaughlin, MacDonald, 1990; MacDonald and Lamont, 1993; McKean and MacDonald, 1995). Propranolol was a weak antagonist against isoproterenol and BRL-37344. The propranolol-resistant responses of isoproterenol were antagonized by
5 cyanopindolol with a pA_2 value of 7.12 under blockade of β_1 - and β_2 -AR effects. They reported that responses to isoproterenol in rat colon were mediated largely through β_3 -AR with small contribution of β_1 -AR and β_2 -AR (McKean and MacDonald, 1995). This observation is supported by Ek et al., 1986, who found β_1 - and β_2 -AR in rat colon membranes by [125 I]-pindolol binding studies. Thus, rat colon has mainly β_3 -AR in
10 addition to β_1 - and β_2 -ARs. Like in guinea pig ileum, cyanopindolol acted as an antagonist at rat atypical β -AR, while it acted as a β_1 -, β_2 -AR antagonist having β_3 -AR agonist potency at human and mouse β_3 -AR (Blin et al., 1993).

Most of the pharmacological features of atypical β -ARs can be explained by β_3 -AR-activity; however, lack of β_3 -AR transcripts in skeletal muscles, or
15 heterogeneous responses in vascular smooth muscles remained unexplained and show the complexity found in the field of receptors.

The invention solves an unresolved question with regard to the existence of polypeptide having a receptor activity other than that of β_3 -adrenergic receptors; in fact, it provides access to a novel receptor class present at least in muscles
20 and in eosinophils, which displays transmembrane domains and may have signal transduction function.

The Inventors have now found, unexpectedly, that in rat colon smooth muscle membranes, there is a non-adrenergic, non-serotonine and non-dopamine receptor mediating at least inhibition of depolarized colon tonus.

25 The subject of the present invention is a substantially pure mammal polypeptide containing sites such that when said sites are exposed at the surface of a cell, they are able of binding iodocyanopindolol (ICYP) under blockade of α , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 -AR, serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and serotonin 5-HT_{1B} receptors, said binding being saturable,

reversible and able to be displaced by a β -adrenergic receptor agonist SM-11044 with stereoselectivity but not by isoproterenol, norepinephrine, epinephrine, serotonin, dopamine or BRL-37344, said polypeptide (1) having an apparent molecular weight of about 30-40 kDa when labeled with 125 I-iodocyanopindolol after photoaffinity labeling
 5 and separation by electrophoresis and an apparent molecular weight of about 60-80 kDa in Western blot, and (2) generating a fragment having the following formula $DPX_1FFQHRHX_2FSIFNX_3$ by acidic cleavage, wherein, X_1 represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or X (SEQ ID N°6), X_2 represents V (SEQ ID N°6) or W (SEQ ID N°5) and X_3 represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or H (SEQ ID N°6), said polypeptide being present at least on muscles
 10 and eosinophils membranes and being a non-adrenergic receptor.

Said new non-adrenergic receptor has the following affinities with different β 3-AR agonists and antagonists:

SM-11044 stimulates guinea pig ileum relaxation of KCl-induced tonus more efficiently than rat white adipocyte lipolysis; SM-11044 and BRL-35135A, a potent
 15 β 3-AR agonist, display the additional property of inhibiting leukotriene B4 induced-guinea pig eosinophil chemotaxis, whereas isoproterenol and BRL-37344 had no such effect. This inhibition was unaffected by the non-selective β -AR antagonist, propranolol, but was antagonized by alprenolol, a β 1-, β 2-AR antagonist/ β 3-AR partial agonist.

While rat colon indeed contains β 3-AR (Bensaid M. et al., 1993) in
 20 addition to β 2-AR with a small population of β 1-AR (Arunlakshana O. et al., 1959), the instant invention clearly shows the existence of a novel functional binding site in rat colon. This site was characterized by ligand binding and photoaffinity labeling, revealing a novel binding protein, designated here Ro-SMBP (SM-11044 binding protein or Rodent SM-binding protein).

25 Said new non-adrenergic SM-binding protein has also been found in human muscles (smooth and striated) (Hu-SMBP); it contains at least the sequence SEQ ID NO:1.

The invention also relates to an isolated and purified nucleic acid which encodes a mammalian receptor as hereabove defined and fragments thereof.

In humans, said coding sequence includes at least SEQ ID NO:2. The said SEQ ID NO:2 comprises in particular the following single restriction sites: Bsp1407 I, Sau96 I, Ava II, Spe I, Cla I, BspD I, Tfi I, Hinf I, Bsa I, AvrII, DrdI, Esp3 I, Bpm I, PflM I, Bsm I, Alu I, BceF I, ScrF I, EcoR II, Dsa V, BstNI, BstKI, BstY I, Bgl II, HgiA I,
 5 Bsp1286 I, ApaL I, BsrF I, Age I, NspC I, Nsp7524I, NspI, Afl III, as located in figures 19, 20 and 21.

Said nucleic acid sequences in different mammals at least hybridizes with:

- a 900 bp of SEQ ID NO:3, or
- 10 - a 300 bp of SEQ ID NO:4.

Said fragments are useful for detection of the gene coding for the instant new non-adrenergic receptor.

The subject of the present invention is also cDNA clones, characterized in that they comprise a sequence fragment coding for the instant non-adrenergic receptor.

15 According to the invention, the clone designated 24.3 comprises 1,7 kb and includes SEQ ID NO:2; it encodes the instant Hu-SMBP.

The invention also relates to synthetic or non-synthetic nucleotide probes, characterized in that they hybridize with one of the nucleic acid as defined above or with their complementary sequences or their corresponding RNA, these probes being
 20 such that they do not hybridize with the genes or the messenger RNA coding for β -adrenergic receptors.

Said probes are selected, for instance, from the group consisting of the hereabove mentioned 900 bp (SEQ ID NO:3) and 300 bp (SEQ ID NO:4) fragments and from SEQ ID NO:7 to SEQ ID NO:12, optionally labeled using a label such as a
 25 radioactive isotope, a suitable enzyme or a fluorochrome.

SEQ ID NO:7 to SEQ ID NO:12 may be used as primers for amplifying one of the instant nucleic acid sequence.

The hybridization conditions are defined as follows, for the probes possessing more than 100 nucleotides: 600 mM NaCl; 60 mM Na-citrate; 8 mM Tris-HCl

pH 7,5; 50 mM Na-phosphate; 1% Ficoll; 1% polyvinylpyrrolidone; 1% bovine serum albumine; 40% formamide; 0.2% SDS; 50 µg/ml salmon sperm DNA.

The invention also relates to recombinant plasmid, cosmid or phage in particular for cloning and/or expression, containing a nucleic acid sequence of the
5 invention at one of its cloning sites (non essential for its replication).

According to an advantageous embodiment of the said plasmid, it further comprises an origin of replication for replication in a host cell, at least one gene whose expression permits selection of said host cell transformed with said plasmid, and a regulatory sequence, including a promoter permitting expression of a polypeptide having
10 a non-adrenergic activity as defined hereabove, in said host cell.

According to an advantageous arrangement of this embodiment, the said plasmid is pcDNA3 into which is inserted, in a multisite linker, SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said plasmid is deposited with the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes [National Collection of Microorganism Cultures] (CNCM held by the PASTEUR
15 INSTITUTE, dated December 10, 1996, under No. I-1795.

The invention also relates to a host cell transformed by a recombinant plasmid as previously defined comprising the elements of regulation making possible the expression of the nucleotide sequence coding for the instant polypeptide in this host.

Such a cell is capable of expressing a SMBP according to the instant
20 invention.

According to an advantageous embodiment, the host cell consists, in particular, in mammalian cell lines.

The invention also relates to antibodies directed specifically against the instant polypeptide, these antibodies being such that they recognize neither known α or β
25 adrenergic, nor serotonin, nor dopamine receptors.

Advantageously, said new non-adrenergic receptor according to the invention constitute a tool for the selection of ligand participating in the activation or in the inhibition of these receptors.

The invention also relates to a method for assaying a substance for agonist or antagonist activity towards a polypeptide according to the invention, which method comprises:

- placing the substance in contact with tissue membrane proteins or a transformed host cell expressing a polypeptide according to the invention under conditions which permit binding between said polypeptide binding sites and an agonist or an antagonist thereto and
- measuring an appropriate transduction signal.

The invention also relates to a process for studying the binding affinity of a compound for a polypeptide according to the invention, which process comprises:

- transforming a host cell by an expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for the instant receptor,
- culturing said transformed host cell under conditions which permit the expression of said receptor encoded by said nucleotide sequence and the transfer of the expressed receptor polypeptide to the membrane of the said transformed host cell so that transmembrane sequences of said receptor polypeptide are embedded in the cell membranes of the transformed host cell;
- placing said transformed host cell in contact with said compound and
- measuring the quantity of said compound bound to said receptor polypeptide.

The invention also relates to a process for studying the binding affinity of a compound for a polypeptide according to the invention, which process comprises:

- extracting membrane proteins corresponding to the instant receptor polypeptide from appropriate tissues or cells such as muscles,
- placing said membrane proteins in contact with said compound and
- measuring the quantity of said compound bound to said receptor polypeptide.

Functional roles of this polypeptide receptor would involve relaxation of depolarized-intestinal smooth muscle or inhibition of eosinophil chemotaxis.

Specific agonist for this new receptor will display at least a therapeutic potentiality in gastrointestinal diseases based on depolarized-tonus, allergic asthma and hypereosinophilic syndrome based on eosinophil accumulation.

Thus, the instant polypeptide receptor makes possible to develop drugs
5 for at least gastrointestinal diseases based on depolarized-tonus, allergic asthma and hypereosinophilic syndrome.

Besides the foregoing arrangements, the invention also comprises other arrangements which will become apparent from the description which follows, reference being made to the attached drawings wherein:

10 . Figure 1: Preparative SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography of 50 mg solubilized rat colon membranes photoaffinity-labeled with 0.5nM [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol;

. Figure 2: Analytical chemical cleavage of SMBP. The isolated-labeled protein of 34 kDa was incubated with distilled water (lane 1), 70% formic acid (lane 2),
15 10% cyanogen bromide in 70% formic acid (lane 3), 75% trifluoroacetic acid (lane 4) or 10% cyanogen bromide in 75% trifluoroacetic acid (lane 5) for 24 h at room temperature, separated by Tricine-SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography. Arrows show 8, 10 and 12 kDa labeled fragments;

. Figure 3: Preparative cyanogen bromide-cleavage of SMBP. The
20 isolated-labeled proteins of 34 kDa were incubated with 10% cyanogen bromide in 70% formic acid for 24 h at room temperature. An aliquot of the cleaved-products was resolved on tricine-SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography. Arrows show 8, 10 and 12 kDa labeled fragments.

. Figure 4: Analytical chemical cleavage of SMBP. Fig. 4a: the partially
25 purified labeled proteins were incubated with distilled water (lane 1), 70% formic acid (lane 2) or 1% cyanogen bromide in 70 % formic acid (lane 3) for 24 h at room temperature or Fig. 4b: the partially purified labeled proteins were incubated with distilled water (lane 1), 70% formic acid (lane 2) for 72 h at 37°C, separated by Tricine-SDS-PAGE and subjected to autoradiography.

Figure 5: Preparative acid-cleavage of SMBP. The isolated-labeled protein of 34 kDa was incubated with 70% formic acid for 72 h at 37°C. An aliquot of the cleaved-products was resolved on tricine-SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography. Attows shows 8 kDa labeled fragment.

5 Figure 6: Reverse-phase HPLC purification of the photoaffinity-labeled formic acid-cleaved 8 kDa fragment. The fragment isolated from tricine-SDS-PAGE gels was further purified by reverse-phase HPLC. Fragment was eluted from the C4 column with a linear gradient of 30-98% buffer B in 120 min (----). Radioactive profile for 8 kDa labeled fragment was shown (●). Based on the amount of recovered
10 radioactivity, HPLC column recovery was 91.6%.

Figure 7: Enzyme immunoassay (ELISA) of antiserum (●), preimmunized-serum (○) or affinity-purified antibody (■, α8-antibody) on plate coated with free peptide. Rabbit polyclonal antibody was raised against the synthetic peptide corresponding to the N-terminal sequence of the 8 kDa fragment.

15 Figure 8: Immunoprecipitation of the solubilized photoaffinity-labeled SMBP. Solubilized-rat colon membranes photoaffinity-labeled with 1.5 nM [¹²⁵I]-ICYP-diazirine in the presence of 10 μM 5-HT, 10 μM phentolamine, 20 μM propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid were immunoprecipitated by 1/200 diluted-preimmunized serum (lane 1) or 10 μg of α8-antibody (lane 2).

20 Figure 9: Western blotting of the rat colon membrane proteins. Lane 1 shows control (1/200 diluted-preimmunized serum was used). The 70 kDa band was detected by 2 μg/ml α8-antibody (lane 2). The detection was inhibited when antibody was preincubated with 10 μg/ml specific peptide (lane 3).

Figure 10: Relationship between the efficacy of β-AR agonists in the
25 rat colon and white adipocytes, in the presence of 10 μM phentolamine and 1 μM propranolol. The linear regression line of the four agonists, except SM-11044, is shown in figure (r=0.97, p < 0.05). The correlation coefficient, when calculated with SM-11044,

was not significant ($r=0.87$, $p > 0.05$). Data represent mean pD2 values \pm SEM (from Table 1).

Figure 11: Time-course of association (○, solid line) and dissociation (●, dashed line) of 1 nM [125 I]-ICYP specific binding to rat colon membranes, in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol. Reversibility of binding was obtained by the addition of 100 μ M SM-11044 at equilibrium (30 min). Data represent mean of two experiments performed in duplicate.

Figure 12: Total, non-specific and specific binding of [125 I]-ICYP to rat colon membranes, in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol. Non-specific binding was determined in the presence of 100 μ M SM-11044. Data represent mean of two experiments performed in duplicate. The inset shows Scatchard's plot of the specific binding ($r=-0.978$, $p < 0.001$). The K_d was 11.0 ± 0.95 nM and the B_{max} was 716.7 ± 21.12 fmol/mg protein.

Figure 13: Displacement of 1 nM [125 I]-ICYP specific binding to rat colon membranes by (a) catecholamines, 5-HT and (b) stereo-isomers of SM-11044, in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol. Data represent mean of two to four experiments performed in duplicate.

Figure 14: SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography of solubilized rat colon membranes photoaffinity-labeled with 1.5 nM [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and different competitors. Lane 1, control; lane 2, displacement by 20 μ M propranolol; lane 3, displacement by 20 μ M propranolol and 100 μ M BRL-37344; lane 4, displacement by 20 μ M propranolol and 100 μ M SM-11044.

Figure 15: Two-dimensional SDS-PAGE followed by autoradiography of solubilized rat colon membranes photoaffinity-labeled with 1.5nM [125 I] ICYP-diazirine in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol.

Figure 16: Tryptic cleavage of the photoaffinity-labeled rat colon membranes. The partially purified labeled proteins were incubated without (lane 1) or

with 50 µg trypsin (lane 2) for 24 h at 37°C, separated by Tricine-SDS-PAGE and subjected to autoradiography.

Figure 17: Displacement of 1 nM [¹²⁵I]-ICYP specific binding to rat skeletal muscle membranes by SM-11044 and (-)-isoproterenol, in the presence of 10 µM 5-HT, 10 µM phentolamine and 20 µM propranolol. Data represent mean ± S.E.M of two experiments performed in duplicate.

Figure 18: Human multiple tissue northern blot hybridized with labeled 300 bp probe. Washes at 2 x SSC, 0.05% S.D.S, at room temperature and exposure on Hyperfilm MP with two intensifying screens at -80°C for three days. Lanes 1-8, in order: skeletal muscle; uterus (non endometrium); colon (no mucosa); small intestine; bladder; heart; stomach; prostate. On the left: scale indicates RNA molecular weight marker in kilobases (Kb).

Figures 19, 20 and 21 illustrate the restriction map of SEQ ID NO:2 (all sites: figure 19; unique sites only: figure 20 and figure 21).

Figure 22 illustrates the hydropathy index of polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:1.

Example 1: Isolation and characterization of the instant receptor in rat colon smooth muscle membranes.

1) Materials and Methods

SM-11044 ((L)-threo-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-N-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl] serine pyrrolidine amide hydrobromide) and (±)-cyanopindolol were synthesized at Sumitomo Pharmaceuticals (Osaka, Japan). (-)-3-[¹²⁵I] iodocyanopindolol ([¹²⁵I]-ICYP) and (±)-3 [¹²⁵I]-iodocyanopindolol-diazirine ([¹²⁵I]-ICYP-diazirine) were purchased from Amersham (Buckinghamshire, England). All other materials were reagent grade.

Rat colon membrane preparation

Frozen rat colons (SD strains, male and female) were purchased from Pel-Freez Biologicals (Arkansas, USA). Membranes from colon smooth muscles were prepared as essentially described by Ek et al., 1986, with the slight following modifications. The colon segment was washed in ice-cold Tris-saline (10 mM Tris/HCl,

154 mM NaCl, (pH 7.4)), cut open longitudinally and the mucosa was removed by scrubbing with a glass slide on ice-cold plastic plate. The smooth muscle preparations were homogenized with a Polytron homogenizer for 1 min. The homogenate was filtered through a gauze and centrifuged ($1,500 \times g$ for 20 min at 4°C), the supernatant was collected and centrifuged ($50,000 \times g$ for 20 min at 4°C). The pellet comprising the membranes was resuspended in Tris-saline and was stored at -80°C until use. The protein concentration was determined by Bio-Rad protein assay kit (Bio-Rad USA).

Binding assays in rat colon membranes

Saturation binding studies were performed in a final volume of 200 μl of Tris-saline containing 50 μg membrane proteins and different concentrations (0.05 - 25 nM) of [^{125}I]-ICYP, in the presence of 10 μM serotonin (5-HT), 10 μM phentolamine, 20 μM (\pm) propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid (pH 7.4), to block possible 5-HT receptors, ARs and oxidation of catecholamines, respectively. The [^{125}I]-ICYP was used after removing methyl alcohol by compressed air to avoid the influence of the solvent. Incubations were carried out at 37°C for 30 min in a shaking water-bath incubator and terminated by addition of 4 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline followed by rapid filtration under vacuum on Whatman GF/B filter presoaked in Tris-saline containing 0.1% polyethyleneimine (pH 7.4). The filters were washed three times with 4 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline, transferred to plastic tubes and counted in a γ -counter.

Photoaffinity labeling of the rat colon membranes

Photoaffinity labeling was performed in a final volume of 10 ml of Tris-saline containing 50 mg membranes, 0.5 nM [^{125}I]-ICYP-diazirine, supplemented with 10 μM 5-HT, 10 μM phentolamine, 20 μM (\pm) propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid (pH 7.4) were incubated at 37°C for 60 min in the dark in a shaking water-bath incubator; the reaction was terminated by addition of 20 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline followed by a rapid centrifugation ($50,000 \times g$ for 10 min at 4°C). The membranes were resuspended in 2-3 ml of the same buffer and irradiated with a UV lamp for 10 min with cooling by circulating water (Guillaume et al., 1994). The labeled membranes were diluted with 20 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline, centrifuged ($50,000 \times g$ for 30 min at 4°C). The labeled

membranes were immediately denatured in SDS-reducing buffer (5% SDS, 1% 2 β -mercaptoethanol, 10% glycerol, 0.002% bromophenol blue, 50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 6.8) for 1 h or more at room temperature before electrophoresis.

5 *Preparative SDS-PAGE and extraction of the photoaffinity-labelled proteins*

Preparative SDS-PAGE was performed with a large size (160 mm width x 200 mm height x 3 mm thickness) of 12% separating and 4% stacking polyacrylamide gels (40% T, 2.6% C) under reducing conditions essentially according to the methods of Laemmli, 1970. After electrophoresis, the gels were packed in a plastic bag and
10 autoradiographed for 3 days at 4°C on X-OMATTM AR film (Eastman Kodak Co., USA). The photoaffinity labeled proteins were extracted by passive extraction, as follows. The radioactive 34 kDa band was cut out and crushed to small pieces of less than 3x3x3 mm³ by squeezing out using 10 ml disposable plastic syringe (Terumo, Japan). The gels were immersed in twice volume of 100 mM Tris/HCl (pH 8.0) containing 0.1% SDS
15 (extraction buffer), and incubated for 16 h at 37°C with rotating. The extract was recovered using a SPIN-XII (0.45 μ m pore size, Costar, USA) at 1,500 x g for 30 min. The remaining gel pieces were again immersed in twice volume of extraction buffer, incubated for 2 h at 37°C with rotating, and the extract was recovered as described above. The two extracts were combined and concentrated to at maximum 0.5 ml using Centriprep
20 10 and Centricon 10 (Amicon, USA) and kept at -20°C.

Chemical cleavage of the extracts from preparative SDS-PAGE and purification by HPLC

The 34 kDa photoaffinity-labeled protein extracted from the preparative SDS-PAGE were washed twice by distilled water using Centricon 10 and lyophilized by
25 vacuum concentrator and treated with 200 μ l of 70% formic acid or 10% CNBr/70% formic acid for 24 h at room temperature, or 70% formic acid for 72 h at 37°C in the dark. The cleaved products were diluted with 500 μ l distilled water and lyophilized. This washing procedure was repeated three times. The cleaved products were dissolved in SDS-reducing buffer and neutralized by addition of aliquots of 30% NaOH until changing

the coloration to blue, and were separated by tricine-SDS-PAGE. The gels were dried and autoradiographed. The labeled bands were cut out, passively extracted and blotted on PVDF membranes by centrifugation (ProSpin™, Applied Biosystems, USA). The membranes were washed 3 times with 1 ml of 20% methanol to remove SDS and salts.

- 5 The fragments were extracted by 200 µl of 75% hexafluoro-isopropanol. Each elution was dried to 20 µl in vacuum concentrator, dissolved in 75µl DMSO and 75 µl of starting buffer (15% acetonitrile-15% isopropanol-0.5% TFA; buffer A) and loaded on a C4 reverse phase column (Aquapore Butyl BU-300, 2.1 mm ID, 10 mm length, Applied Biosystems). Separation was carried out by a 120 min gradient elution at 40°C with 50%
10 acetonitrile-50% isopropanol containing 0.5% TFA (buffer B) at a flow rate of 0.35ml/min using a Waters 625 LC System. The gradient started from 30% to 98% buffer B. The elution of fragments was monitored by the absorbance at 210 and 275nm, and the elution of radioiodinated products was monitored by γ-counting of the fractions.

Tricine-SDS-PAGE

- 15 Chemical cleaved fragments were separated on a Tricine gel system under reducing conditions (Schägger H. et al., 1987) using 18% polyacrylamide separating gel containing 10.7% glycerol. The gels aged for 16 h to allow for decomposition of reactive chemical intermediates after polymerization.

Amino acid sequencing

- 20 Amino acid sequence determination was performed by Edman degradation, 1967, with an Applied Biosystems 473A protein sequencer. Samples were applied to precycled filters, coated with Polybrene (Biobrene, Applied Biosystems) to reduce peptide-wash-out and to improve initial yields.

Antibody preparation

- 25 Antibody was prepared as essentially described by Guillaume et al. (Eur. J. Biochem., 1994, 224, 761-770).

Briefly, based on the determined amino acid sequences, peptides were synthesized adding a cysteine residue at C-terminal residue to facilitate coupling to the carrier protein (Keyhole limpet hemocyanin, KLH). The synthetic peptides were

conjugated to KLH through their cysteine residues. A 0.4 mg of the peptide-conjugate, suspended in Freund's complete adjuvant, was intradermally injected into rabbit. Boosters were given 4 times at 2 weeks intervals by injection of a 0.2 mg of the peptide-conjugate suspended in Freund's incomplete adjuvant. Two weeks later the final immunization,
5 antiserum was recovered from whole blood.

Antibody was purified by affinity chromatography on a column containing the synthetic peptide coupled to activated thiol-Sepharose-4B (Pharmacia) through a cysteine at C-terminal residue, and the antibody titer level against the free peptide without conjugation to KLH was determined by ELISA.

10 *Immunoprecipitation*

Total amounts of 10 mg membranes were photoaffinity-labeled with 1.5nM [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine in the presence of 10 μ M, 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine, 20 μ M propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid in 10 ml of Tris-saline (pH 7.4). Membranes were solubilized at 1 mg membrane protein/ml of Tris-saline containing 2% n-octylglucoside
15 (n-octyl β -D-glucopyranoside, Sigma) for 2 h on ice with occasional mixing. The solubilized-proteins were separated from the insoluble material by centrifugation (200,000 x g, 30 min at 4°C). The proteins were treated with 8 M urea for 1 h at room temperature with occasional mixing and were washed 5 times with Tris-saline using Centricon 10. The solubilized-membrane proteins were dissolved in 1ml Tris-saline
20 containing 0.1% Tween-20 and were incubated with 10 μ g antibody and 50 μ l protein-A-agarose beads (Boehringer-Mannheim, Germany) for 16 h at 4°C with rotating. The precipitant was gently washed 5 times with ice-cold Tris-saline containing 0.1% Tween-20 and denatured in SDS-reducing buffer for more than 1 h at room temperature. The immunoprecipitated proteins were subjected to 12% SDS-PAGE and autoradiographed.

25 *Western blotting*

Photoaffinity-labeled membranes (40 μ g protein) were separated by 12% SDS-PAGE. Electrotransfer of proteins onto nitrocellulose was carried out essentially according to Towbin et al., 1979, on a Trans-Blot SD apparatus (Bio-Rad) for 1 h at a current intensity of 1mA/cm². Nitrocellulose membranes were washed three times

with Dulbecco's phosphate buffered saline (PBS) containing 0.2% Tween-20 and were saturated in PBS containing 5% skimmed milk powder and 0.2% Tween-20 for 1 h at room temperature. Antibody (2 µg/ml in PBS containing 1% skimmed milk powder and 0.2% Tween-20; buffer C) was allowed to react for 16 h at 4°C.

5 After three times washing in buffer C, the nitrocellulose strips were incubated for 45 min at room temperature with peroxidase-conjugated affinity-purified Goat anti-rabbit IgG (Jackson Immuno-Research Laboratories, USA) at a 1/2500 dilution in buffer C, washed three times in buffer C. After washing in PBS containing 0.2% Tween-20, reactive bands were visualized with an ECL kit (Amersham, England). In
10 inhibition experiments, antibody was preincubated for 2 h at 37°C with free peptide at a concentration of 10 µg/ml in buffer C.

2) Results

Extraction of the photoaffinity-labeled SMBP

Membrane proteins of 2.0 g were collected from 600 rat colon smooth
15 muscles. The ligand binding activity of SMBP was assessed by [¹²⁵I]-ICYP under blockade of adrenergic and serotonin receptors. Scatchard plot analysis revealed a single class of binding sites with a dissociation constant (K_d) of 7.22 ± 0.007 nM and a maximum number of binding sites (B_{max}) of 1.13 ± 0.071 pmol/mg membrane protein (two independent experiments performed duplicate, expressed as means ± SD).

20 The SMBP was too hydrophobic to separate by any column chromatography such as reverse-phase HPLC with C4 column (Aquapore Butyl BU-300, Applied Biosystems), ion exchange chromatography (Aquapore Weak Anion AX-300, Applied Biosystems), chromatofocusing (PBE 94 and Polybuffer 74, Pharmacia), hydroxyapatite chromatography (BioGel HPHT, Bio-Rad). Preparative SDS-PAGE was
25 performed to separate SMBP just after the photoaffinity labeling. Fifty mg of the labeled-membranes could be loaded on a set of polyacrylamide gels without serious diffusion of the 34 kDa labeled-SMBP (figure 1). The passive extraction of 34kDa bands yielded 79.3-86.2% of the total radioactive proteins in gels.

Chemical cleavage, purification and sequencing

Chemical cleavage has some advantage in contrast to proteolytic digestion; it avoids contamination by protease itself, and produces limited numbers of large fragments. Analytically, each 1 mg of the labeled 34 kDa protein was treated with 10% CNBr in 70% formic acid or in 75% TFA to compare the effect of acid. In formic acid condition, CNBr generated three labeled fragments of 8, 10 and 12 kDa, and formic acid alone generated a single 8 kDa labeled fragment. In the acid condition with TFA, most of the labeling was dissociated by acid itself, a single 10 kDa labeled fragment was observed by CNBr cleavage (figure 2).

The extract of the labeled 34 kDa protein from 400 mg membranes (411794 cpm) was preparatively cleaved by CNBr/formic acid, and an aliquot of the cleaved-products was resolved on tricine-SDS-PAGE gels. Three labeled fragments of major 12 kDa and minor 8 and 10 kDa were observed on autoradiogram of coomassie blue stained gels (figure 3).

Cleavage at methionine residues by CNBr/formic acid treatment for 24 h at room temperature of the photoaffinity-labeled 34 kDa protein yielded three labelled-fragments (8, 10 and 12 kDa, Fig. 4a, lane 3). Treatment by formic acid alone generated a single 8 kDa fragment (Fig. 4a, lane 2), and the density of the 8 kDa band increased upon prolonged incubation (for 72 h at 37°C, Fig. 4b, lane 2).

The extract of the labeled 34 kDa protein from 400 mg membrane (381198 cpm) was preparatively cleaved by formic acid, and an aliquot of the cleaved-products was resolved on tricine SDS-PAGE gels. A single labeled-fragment of 8kDa was observed on autoradiogram of coomassie blue stained-gels (figure 5). The radioactive 8 kDa fragment (total 21400 cpm) in preparative scale was extracted by passive extraction from tricine-SDS-PAGE gels without coomassie blue staining, and was blotted on PVDF membranes (19581 cpm). The fragment was extracted from PVDF membranes (10045 cpm) and further purified by reverse-phase HPLC. One radioactive peak was observed at 62% buffer B (fraction n° 27 and 28; total 3239 cpm, figure 6). Total recovery yield of the

initial radioactivity was 91.6%. The peak fractions were submitted to protein sequencer, and the resulting amino acid sequence was determined as follows:

1	5	10	15

5 (D) P X F F Q H R I H V F S I F N H (SEQ ID NO:6)

Parenthesis; expected amino acid

X; undetermined amino acid.

Analytical CNBr-cleavage indicated that cleavage at methionine residue in the presence of TFA, which improve the cleave at CNBr-resistant bonds such as Met-Thr or Met-Ser (Fontana A. et al., 1986), generated a single 10 kDa fragment.

10 In formic acid condition, CNBr generated three labeled fragments of 8, 10 and 12 kDa, and formic acid alone generated a single 8 kDa labeled fragment. These data suggest that 12 kDa fragment contains a CNBr-resistant methionine residue cleaved to 10 kDa by CNBr/TFA and that the 8 kDa fragment by formic acid alone is a product by
15 cleavage at acid-sensitive bond such as Asp-Pro.

Immunoprecipitation and Western blotting

The peptide corresponding to the N-terminal sequence of the 8 kDa fragment (Acetyl-FFQHRIHVFSIFNHC) was coupled to KLH and the conjugate was used to raise antibody with high titer. The antibody response was observed at 2×10^{-5}
20 dilution of antiserum and at 0.08 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ of affinity purified antibody ($\alpha 8$ -antibody) as assessed by ELISA against free peptide without conjugation to KLH (figure 7).

The synthetic peptide corresponding to the 8 kDa-fragment was hydrophobic and could not be dissolved in a buffer without dimethyl sulfoxide. Initially, the labeled 34 kDa protein, extracted from preparative SDS-PAGE gels, was used after
25 removing SDS, but no labeled protein was immunoprecipitated. After solubilization of the photoaffinity-labeled membranes by n-octylglucoside followed by denaturation with urea, the $\alpha 8$ -antibody immunoprecipitated the labeled 34 kDa SMBP (figure 8).

The $\alpha 8$ -antibody recognized only a 70 kDa band by western blotting. The specificity of the antibody was demonstrated by the ability of the free peptide to

inhibit the binding of the antibody to the 70 kDa protein (figure 9). In a separate experiment, photoaffinity-labeled SMBP was purified by two-dimensional electrophoresis in preparative scale, and the 34 kDa labeled spot in gels was isolated, extracted and subjected to SDS-PAGE. Two labeled bands of 34 and 70 kDa derived from 34 kDa were observed, indicating that the 70 kDa protein could be dimer.

Example 2: Pharmacological properties of the rat receptor according to example 1.

Catecholamine-induced relaxant responses which are resistant to blockade of α -, β 1- and β 2-adrenoceptors (ARs) have been described in a number of gastro-intestinal smooth muscle preparations, such as guinea pig ileum (Bond R.A. et al., 1988), rat proximal colon (Croci T. et al., 1988), rat distal colon (McLaughlin D.P. et al., 1990), rat gastric fundus (McLaughlin D.P. et al., 1991) and rat jejunum (Van der Vliet A. et al., 1990). Manara et al., 1990, actually reported that the phenylethanolamino-tetralines-stimulated rat colon relaxation paralleled rat adipocyte lipolysis, suggesting that this response predominantly involved the β 3-AR.

1) Materials and Methods

Chemicals

SM-11044 ((L)-threo-3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-N-[3-(4-fluorophenyl) propyl] serine pyrrolidine amide hydrobromide), SM-14786 ((D)-threo isomer of SM-11044), SM-14011 ((DL)-threo-isomer of SM-11044), SM-14010 ((DL)-erythro-isomer of SM-11044), BRL-35135A ((R*R*)-(+)-4-[2'-[2-hydroxy 2-(3-chlorophenyl) ethyl amino] propyl] phenoxyacetic acid methyl ester), BRL-37344 (acid metabolite of BRL-35135A) and ((-)-cyanopindolol were synthesised at Sumitomo Pharmaceuticals (Osaka, Japan). CGP-12177A and CGP-20712A were gifts from Ciba-Geigy Corporation (Basel, Switzerland). ICI-198157 ((RS)-4-[2-[(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl) amino] ethoxy] phenoxyacetic acid methyl ester), ICI-201651 (acid metabolite of ICI-198157) and ICI-215001 ((S)-isomer of ICI-201651) and ICI-118551 were obtained from Zeneca Pharmaceuticals (Macclesfield, England). SR-58611A ((RS)-N-(7 carbethoxymethoxyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphth-2-yl)-2-hydroxy-2-(3 chlorophenyl) ethanamine hydro-chloride) was a gift from Sanofi-Midy (Milano, Italy). (+)-Carazolol was obtained from Boehringer

Mannheim (Mannheim, Germany). (+)-Bupranolol was a gift from Schwarz Pharma (Monheim, Germany). (-)-3-[¹²⁵I] iodocyanopindolol ([¹²⁵I]-ICYP) and (+)-3 [¹²⁵I]-iodocyanopindolol-diazirine ([¹²⁵I]-ICYP-diazirine) were purchased from Amersham (Buckinghamshire, England). All other drugs were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (St. Louis, MO, USA).

Relaxation of rat colon

Rat colon segment (2 cm) was suspended in organ bath containing 10 ml modified-Tyrode solution (Sugasawa T. et al., Eur. J. Pharmacol., 1992, 216, 207-215). The Tyrode solution contained 0.5 μM atropine, 0.5 μM desmethylinipramine, 30 μM hydrocortisone, 30 μM ascorbic acid, 10 μM phentolamine and 1 μM propranolol throughout study, in order to inhibit spontaneous contraction, neuronal and extra-neuronal uptake of norepinephrine, oxidation of catecholamines, possible α, β1- and β2-AR effects, respectively.

The relaxant action of agonists was determined by measuring relaxation of KCl (100 mM)-induced tonus evoked by cumulative addition of the agonists as described previously (Sugasawa T. et al. cited above). In the case of testing the effect of cyanopindolol, it was added 5 - 10 min before the addition of agonist.

Lipolysis in rat white adipocytes

White adipocytes were isolated from epididymal fat pads of male Wistar rats (190 - 230 g) and lipolysis was determined according to the previous report (Sugasawa T. et al. cited above). The cells were preincubated for 5 min at 37°C in the presence of 30 μM ascorbic acid, 10 μM phentolamine and 1 μM propranolol.

Agonists were then applied and incubated for 90 min. In the case of testing the effect of cyanopindolol, it was added 5 min before the addition of agonist.

Schild plot

Agonist concentration-ratios (CR) were determined from the EC₅₀ values of the concentration-response curves of agonists with or without cyanopindolol, according to the method of Arunlakshana et al., 1959.

Linear regression analysis was used to estimate the pA_2 value and slope of the line, after confirming that the regression was linear and the slope was not significantly different from unity (Cochran-cox test, $p > 0.05$). The EC_{50} values were calculated using the computer program, InPlot™.

5 *Statistical analysis*

Results are expressed as mean \pm SEM. Statistical significance between two data sets was examined by Student's t-test or Cochran-cox test, depending on the homogeneity of the variances. Duncan's multiple range test was used for multiple data sets. A probability level of $p < 0.05$ was considered to be significant.

10 *Membrane preparation*

Membranes from the colon smooth muscle and from skeletal muscle were prepared from male Wistar rats (300 - 360 g) as essentially mentioned in example 1.

Binding assays in membranes

15 Saturation binding studies were performed in a final volume of 200 μ l of Tris-saline containing 50 μ g membrane proteins and different concentrations (0.05 - 25 nM) of [125 I]-ICYP, supplemented with 10 μ M serotonin (5-HT), 10 μ M phentolamine, 20 μ M propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid (pH 7.4), to block possible 5-HT receptors, ARs and oxidation of catecholamines, respectively. The [125 I]-ICYP was used after removing methyl alcohol by compressed air to avoid the influence of the solvent.
20 Incubations were carried out at 37°C for 30 min in a shaking water-bath incubator and terminated by addition of 4 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline followed by rapid filtration under vacuum on Whatman GF/B filter presoaked in Tris-saline containing 0.1% polyethyleneimine (pH 7.4). The filters were washed three times with 4 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline, transferred to plastic tubes and counted in a γ -counter.

25 Competition assays were performed against 1 nM [125 I]-ICYP. Non-specific binding was determined in the presence of 100 μ M SM-11044. The inhibition constant, K_i , of a ligand was calculated using the equation described by Cheng and Prusoff (Biochem. Pharmacol., 1973, 22, 3099-3108). Hill coefficient was calculated by

linear regression using saturation experiment data. Pseudo-Hill coefficient and IC_{50} were determined by the computer program, InPlotTM (GraphPad Software, CA, USA).

Photoaffinity labeling of the membranes

Photoaffinity labeling was performed in a final volume of 1 ml of Tris-saline containing 0.5 mg membranes, 1.5 nM [¹²⁵I]-ICYP-diazirine, supplemented with 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine, 20 μ M propranolol and 1.1 mM ascorbic acid (pH 7.4). Incubations were carried out in the presence or absence of competitor at 37°C for 45 min in the dark in a shaking water-bath incubator and terminated by addition of 10 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline followed by a rapid centrifugation (150,000 x g for 10 min at 4°C). The membranes were irradiated with a UV lamp for 5 min with cooling by circulating water. The labeled membranes were diluted with 10 ml of ice-cold Tris-saline, centrifuged (150,000 x g for 30 min at 4°C), and the pellet was resuspended in Tris-saline and kept at -80°C.

SDS-PAGE

SDS-PAGE was performed under reducing conditions essentially as described by Laemmli, 1970, using 12% polyacrylamide gels (40% T, 2.6% C). The photoaffinity-labelled membranes were incubated in SDS-sample buffer (5% SDS, 1% 2 β -mercaptoethanol, 10% glycerol, 0.002% bromophenol blue, 50 mM Tris/HCl, (pH 6.8)) for at least 1 h at room temperature. After electrophoresis, the gels were dried and autoradiographed on X-OMATTM AR film (Eastman Kodak Co., NY, USA), as specified in example 1, chapter «preparative SDS-PAGE».

Two-dimensional PAGE of photoaffinity-labeled membranes

Photoaffinity-labeled membranes in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol were solubilized in IEF-sample buffer (8 M urea, 0.3% SDS, 5.6% Triton X-100, 2.8% 2 β -mercaptoethanol, 1.1% Bio-Lyte 5/8 ampholyte and 0.6% Bio-Lyte 8/10 ampholyte (Bio-Rad)) and 30 μ g of membrane proteins were submitted to IEF electrophoresis in a 5 - 10 pI range of 4% polyacrylamide tube gels containing 2.0% Bio-Lyte 5/8 ampholyte, 1.0% Bio-Lyte 8/10 ampholyte, 8 M urea and 2% Triton X-100. The second dimension was conducted on SDS-PAGE of 9%

polyacrylamide gels. The gels were then dried and submitted to autoradiography as described above.

Cleavage by endoglycosidase or N-glycopeptidase F

Photoaffinity-labeled membranes in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol were treated with N glycopeptidase F (PNGase F, EC 3.2.2.18) or endoglycosidase (Endo Hf, EC 3.2.1.96), using kits according to the manufacturer's specifications (New England Bio-Labs, MA, USA). Briefly, the membranes were solubilized in 0.5% SDS and 1% 2 β -mercaptoethanol, and 40 μ g of membrane proteins were incubated with 5000 units of PNGase F in the presence of 1% NP-40 or with 2000 units of Endo Hf for 3 h at 37°C. The digested samples were subjected to SDS-PAGE of 12% polyacrylamide gels. The gels were then dried and submitted to autoradiography as described above.

Wheat germ agglutinine (WGA) - sepharose chromatography

Photoaffinity-labeled membranes in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol were solubilized in 1% Triton X-100 in Tris-saline at 4°C for 16 h. The solubilized material was collected after centrifugation (200,000 x g for 1 h at 4°C) and diluted to 0.1% Triton X-100 by Tris-saline. One milliliter gel bed volume of WGA-sepharose 6MB (Sigma) was washed and equilibrated with 30 ml of 0.1% Triton X-100 in Tris-saline (buffer A), and 1 ml of solubilized material containing 200 μ g membrane proteins was loaded at room temperature. The unretained fraction was recycled three times. After washing with 10 ml of buffer A, the bound material was eluted with 5 ml of 300 mM N-acetyl-D-glucosamine (Merck) in buffer A. The fractions were subjected to SDS-PAGE of 12% polyacrylamide gels. The gels were then dried and submitted to autoradiography as described above.

Tryptic cleavage

The photoaffinity-labeled membranes were subjected to SDS-PAGE of 12% polyacrylamide gels. The gels were then dried and submitted to autoradiography as described above. The radioactive band at 34 kDa was excised, immersed in distilled water and minced to small pieces (2 mm width x 2 mm height). The isolated gel pieces

corresponding to 800 µg membrane proteins was digested in 500 µl of 100-mM-Tris/HCl (pH 8.0) containing 0.1% SDS and 50 µg trypsin (EC 3.4.21.4, Type IX from Porcine Pancreas, Sigma) for 24 h at 37°C according to the method of Kawasaki H. et al., 1990. After digestion, the supernatant was recovered and filtrated using a SPIN-X filter (0.45 mm pore size, Costar, MA, USA). The gel pieces were crushed through a nylon mesh (200 mesh) by centrifugation for 10 min at 14,000 x g. A 2-fold volume of 100 mM Tris/HCl containing 0.1% SDS was added to the crushed gels, and a second extraction was performed by incubation for 2 h at 37°C with rotating. After incubation, the supernatants were recovered by SPIN-X filter. The two extracts were combined, vacuum concentrated and submitted to Tricine-SDS-PAGE.

Chemical cleavage

The 34 kDa photoaffinity-labeled protein was isolated by SDS-PAGE and extracted with 100 mM Tris/HCl (pH 8.0) containing 0.1% SDS as described above. The extracts were combined and concentrated by Centricon 10 (Amicon, MA, USA) and washed twice by distilled water. The extracts were lyophilised by vacuum concentrator and treated with 200 µl of 70% formic acid or 1% CNBr/70% formic acid for 24 h at room temperature, or 70% formic acid for 72 h at 37°C in the dark. The cleaved products were diluted with 500 µl distilled water and lyophilised. This washing procedure was repeated three times. The cleaved products were separated by Tricine SDS-PAGE.

Tricine-SDS-PAGE

Tryptic and chemical cleaved fragments were separated on a Tricine gel system under reducing conditions (Schägger H. et al., 1987) using 18% polyacrylamide separating gel containing 10.7% glycerol. After electrophoresis, the gels were stained with 0.25% Coomassie brilliant blue R-250 (Sigma) in 40% methanol and 10% acetic acid, and destained in 10% acetic acid. The gels were then dried and submitted to autoradiography as described above.

2) Results

Functional studies in rat colon and white adipocytes

Under blockade of α -, β 1- and β 2-ARs (in the presence of 10 μ M phentolamine and 1 μ M propranolol), a number of β -AR agonists relaxed KCl-induced tonus in rat colon smooth muscle segment, giving a rank order of potency of BRL-37344 > SM-11044 >> isoproterenol >> norepinephrine = epinephrine (Table 1).

TABLE 1

Agonist efficiency in rat colon relaxation and rat white adipocyte lipolysis in the presence of 10 μ M phentolamine and 1 μ M propranolol

Agonist	Rat colon			Rat white adipocytes		
	pD ₂	IA	n	pD ₂	IA	n
(-)-isoproterenol	6.64±0.22	1.00±0.063	5	5.86±0.07	1.00±0.037	5
(-)-norepinephrine	5.85±0.27	0.85±0.168	4	5.40±0.10	1.02±0.058	5
(-)-epinephrine	5.92±0.06	0.86±0.137	6	5.16±0.06	0.91±0.036	5
BRL-37344	7.50±0.18	1.00±0.126	8	7.25±0.09	0.72±0.0333**	5
SM-11044	7.29±0.21	1.48±0.166*	7	5.96±0.11	0.86±0.054	5

Statistical significance between IA values; * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01 vs isoproterenol (Duncan's multiple range test).

The IA value of SM-11044 was significantly higher than that of isoproterenol (Duncan's multiple range test, p < 0.05), indicating different modes of action. In rat white adipocytes, the same agonists stimulated lipolysis with a rank order of potency of BRL-37344 >> SM-11044 = isoproterenol > norepinephrine > epinephrine (Table 1). The linear regression line for isoproterenol, norepinephrine, epinephrine and BRL-37344 reveals a significant correlation (r=0.97, p < 0.05) between agonist induced rat colon relaxation and adipocyte lipolysis (Fig. 10), suggesting that both effects predominantly involve the same atypical β -, that is β 3-AR stimulation. In contrast to the four ligands, SM-11044 stimulated colon relaxation more efficiently than adipocyte lipolysis (Fig. 10). Indeed, the correlation coefficient ceased to be significant when linear regression was analyzed with all agonists including SM-11044 (r= 0.87, p > 0.05). These data suggest that SM-11044 acts on β 3-AR and additional functional site that mediates

relaxation in rat colon. Antagonism of cyanopindolol for SM-11044 and for isoproterenol was compared in both preparations. Cyanopindolol itself, up to the concentration of 10 μ M used here, had no effect on the degree of tonus induced by KCl in rat colon and did not stimulate lipolysis in rat white adipocytes. Cyanopindolol antagonised agonist-induced rat colon relaxation in a concentration-dependent manner, with pA_2 values for SM-11044 of 8.31 (slope = 0.78) and for isoproterenol of 7.65 (slope = 1.03) (Table 2).

TABLE 2

pA_2 values for cyanopindolol in rat colon and rat white adipocytes in the presence of 10 μ M phentolamine and 1 μ M propranolol.

Agonist	Rat colon			Rat white adipocytes		
	pA_2	Slope	n	pA_2	Slope	n
(-)-isoproterenol	7.65 \pm 0.48	1.03 \pm 0.08	5	7.44 \pm 0.61	1.08 \pm 0.10	4
SM-11044	8.31 \pm 0.88	0.78 \pm 0.11	5	7.32 \pm 1.51	0.96 \pm 0.21	4

Cyanopindolol also antagonized agonist-induced rat white adipocyte lipolysis in a concentration-dependent manner, with pA_2 values for SM 11044 of 7.32 (slope = 0.96) and for isoproterenol of 7.44 (slope = 1.08) (Table 2). The similar pA_2 values for isoproterenol in colon (7.65), SM-11044 in adipocytes (7.32) and isoproterenol in adipocytes (7.44) with the slopes close to unity, indicating the competitive antagonism of cyanopindolol for both agonists binding to β_3 -AR. All slopes of Schild plots were not significantly different from unity. However, only the slope for SM-11044 in rat colon (0.78) seemed to be lower than unity with high pA_2 value (8.31), suggesting that SM-11044 and cyanopindolol compete not only binding to β_3 -AR but also to additional functional site on rat colon.

Binding assays in rat colon membranes

In order to identify the predicted functional site, being competed by SM-11044 and cyanopindolol, binding studies in rat colon smooth muscle membranes were performed using [125 I]-ICYP for radioligand and SM-11044 for non-specific binding determination, under blockade of serotonin, α -, β_1 -, β_2 - and also β_3 -adrenergic

receptors (in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol). The time course of specific binding of [125 I]-ICYP (1 nM) to rat colon membranes was illustrated in Fig. 11. Specific binding achieved equilibrium levels at 30 min ($82.7 \pm 1.9\%$, $n=2$), and was reversed by addition of SM-11044. The results of a saturation experiment with increasing amount of [125 I]-ICYP, carried out at equilibrium (30 min incubation), are illustrated in Fig. 12. Scatchard plot analysis revealed a single class of binding sites with a dissociation constant (K_d) of 11.0 ± 0.95 nM, and a maximum number of binding sites (B_{max}) of 716.7 ± 21.12 fmol/mg protein ($r=-0.978$, $p < 0.001$). Hill plot analysis of the saturation curve yielded a coefficient of 0.99 ± 0.03 ($r=0.998$, $p < 0.0001$), indicating the absence of cooperativity.

In competition binding studies, specific binding was not displaced by isoproterenol, norepinephrine, epinephrine, dopamine nor 5-HT, up to the concentration of 1mM (Fig. 13a, Table 1). The competition binding by isomers of SM-11044 was stereo-selective, SM-14011 (the racemic threo isomer, K_i 2.0 μ M) being 15 times more effective than SM-14010 (the racemic erythro-isomer, K_i 29.3 μ M) (Fig. 13b, Table 3). The β_1 -AR antagonist, CGP20712A and the β_3 -AR agonist, BRL-37344 did not displace the specific binding up to the concentration of 100 μ M; the β_2 -AR antagonist, ICI-18551 was effective with a relatively high K_i (28.5 μ M) (Table 3). Cyanopindolol was the most effective competitor with a K_i of 0.11 μ M, and pindolol had no effect up to the concentration of 100 μ M. Carazolol, a ligand structurally related to cyanopindolol, was less effective, in spite of being more lipophilic (Table 3). Interestingly, BRL-35135A (methyl ester of BRL-37344) and ICI 198157 (methyl ester of ICI-201651; ICI-215001, a (S)-enantiomer of ICI-201651) displaced the specific binding, whereas the corresponding acid metabolites were inactive (Table 3). The specific binding was significantly reduced by GTP ($29.8 \pm 2.7\%$ inhibition at 300 μ M ($p < 0.01$) and $98.2 \pm 1.3\%$ at 1 mM ($p < 0.001$), $n=2$, respectively).

TABLE 3

Affinity (K_i) values of various ligands on [125 I]-ICYP specific binding to rat colon membranes in the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT, 10 μ M phentolamine and 20 μ M propranolol.

Ligands	K_i (μ M)	Pseudo-Hill coefficient
<i>Catecholamines and 5-HT</i>		
(-)-isoproterenol	> 1000	
(-)-norepinephrine	> 1000	
(-)-epinephrine	> 1000	
Dopamine	> 1000	
5-HT	> 1000	
<i>SM-11044 and stereo-isomers</i>		
SM-11044 ((l)-threo)	1.8 \pm 0.3	1.00 \pm 0.12
SM-14786 ((d)-threo)	3.7 \pm 0.4	0.92 \pm 0.15
SM-14011 ((dl)-threo)	2.0 \pm 0.5	1.07 \pm 0.15
SM-14010 ((dl)-erythro)	29.3 \pm 10.3	0.67 \pm 0.13
<i>β_1-antagonist</i>		
CGP-20712A	> 100	
<i>β_2-antagonist</i>		
ICI-118551	28.5 \pm 3.6	0.89 \pm 0.14
<i>β_3-agonists</i>		
BRL-35135A (ester)	1.4 \pm 0.1	0.80 \pm 0.14
BRL-37344 (acid metabolite)	> 100	
ICI-198157 (ester)	29.4 \pm 8.9	0.96 \pm 0.23
ICI-215001 (acid metabolite)	> 100	
ICI-201651 (acid metabolite)	> 100	
SR-58611A (ester)	5.9 \pm 1.0	1.21 \pm 0.21
<i>β_1-, β_2-antagonists having β_3- partial agonist potencies</i>		
CGP-12177A	> 100	
(\pm)-cyanopindolol	0.11 \pm 0.02	1.01 \pm 0.14
(\pm)-pindolol	> 100	
(\pm)-carazolol	8.1 \pm 1.7	0.77 \pm 0.11
(\pm)-alprenolol	13.3 \pm 2.4	0.85 \pm 0.24
<i>β_1-, β_2-, β_3-antagonist</i>		
(\pm)-bupranolol	11.3 \pm 0.8	1.08 \pm 0.08

Photoaffinity labeling study

Photoaffinity labeling was performed to visualize the specific binding site in rat colon membranes using [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine. In the presence of 10 μ M 5-HT and 10 μ M phentolamine, but in the absence of propranolol, a single dense band of 34 kDa was visualized in addition to two broad bands with apparent molecular masses of 50 and 70 kDa. (Fig. 14, lane 1). In contrast, in the presence of 20 μ M propranolol, 10 μ M 5-HT and 10 μ M phentolamine, that is, in the same conditions of the competition binding assay with [125 I] ICYP, only the 34 kDa band remained visible (Fig. 14, lane 2). These results suggest that the two broad bands are β -ARs. Moreover, the 34 kDa band was not displaced by 100 μ M BRL-37344, but was displaced by 100 μ M SM-11044 (Fig. 14, lane 3 and 4, respectively). These data support the results of the competition binding assay, suggesting the existence of a single specific binding site for [125 I]-ICYP and SM-11044.

Two-dimensional PAGE of the photoaffinity-labeled membranes confirmed the labeling of a single 34 kDa polypeptide chain corresponding to a pI of 6.0 (Fig. 15). The molecular size of the photoaffinity-labeled 34 kDa protein was not modified by the enzymatic treatments with endoglycosidase or N glycopeptidase F, whereas both enzymes reduced the molecular size of ovalbumin from 43 kDa to 40 kDa. Solubilized photoaffinity-labeled 34 kDa protein (373,298 cpm), were applied to a WGA-sepharose column. The unretained fraction contained 35.7% of the radioactivity, and washed out fractions contained 53.3% of the radioactivity. The specific sugar, 300 mM N-acetyl-D-glucosamine, eluted only 2.3% of the radiolabeled material. The eluted fraction was subjected to SDS-PAGE after concentration, but the photoaffinity-labeled 34 kDa band was not detected. A single 7 kDa labeled-peptide was generated upon digestion of the photoaffinity-labeled 34 kDa protein with trypsin (Fig. 16). Recovery yields in final extracts from the gel pieces were 62.7% for the labeled 34 kDa protein and 90.4% for the in-situ generated tryptic peptides.

Binding studies in rat skeletal muscle membrane preparation

[¹²⁵I]-ICYP specific binding to skeletal muscle membranes was not displaced by isoproterenol up to concentrations of 10⁻⁴ M. In contrast, SM-11044 displaced the binding in a concentration-dependent manner (Figure 17).

5

Pharmacological definition of the instant receptor

- SM-11044, a β -AR agonist, showed atypical agonist effects such as relaxant responses in guinea pig ileum and rat colon intestines, and inhibition of guinea pig eosinophil chemotaxis.

Cyanopindolol competitively antagonized the responses to isoproterenol and SM-11044 at β 3-AR with similar pA₂ values (7.32 ~ 7.65) in rat colon intestinal segments and rat white adipocytes. The values were also similar to those reported at β 3-AR on rat white adipocytes (Kirkham D. et al., 1992), rat colon, rat gastric fundus (McLaughlin and MacDonald, 1989, 1990), and guinea pig ileum (Blue D.R. et al., 1989). In contrast, cyanopindolol antagonized the additional atypical effect of the SM-11044-induced colon relaxation with higher pA₂ value (8.31) along with low slope of Schild plots (0.78). The results demonstrated the existence of at least two different affinity sites including β 3-AR in rat colon. Thus, cyanopindolol and SM-11044 competed not only at β 3-AR but also at another atypical binding site. SM-11044 stimulated relaxant responses of the KCl-induced depolarized colon tonus through both sites.

20

Initial comparison with atypical effects between guinea pig ileum and rat white adipocytes could not exclude species-related difference. However, the difference of atypical effects between rat white adipocytes and rat colon intestines are now evident, that is not species-related phenomenon.

- Detection of the binding site: radioligand binding assay was performed using rat colon smooth muscle membranes based on the results in functional studies that SM-11044 and cyanopindolol competed the sites. In general, if same origin of ligands are used for both radioligand and «cold» ligand, physically- or chemically-related non-specific binding can not be excluded. Furthermore, pA₂ value of cyanopindolol was 8.31 and pD₂ value of SM-11044 was 7.29 in rat colon, suggesting 10-fold higher affinity of

25

cyanopindolol than that of SM-11044 at the two atypical components ($\beta 3$ -AR and another site). Therefore, [125 I]-ICYP and SM-11044 were used as radioligand and «cold» ligand, respectively.

[125 I]-ICYP can bind to $\beta 1$ -, $\beta 2$ -, $\beta 3$ -ARs, serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{1B} receptors (Tate K.M. et al., 1991; Hoyer D. et al., 1994). In contrast, specific binding was obtained under blockade of these known receptors. Competition binding studies revealed that the binding site was indeed different from these receptors. Natural AR ligands (epinephrine and norepinephrine) and classical β -AR ligand (isoproterenol) showed no affinity, suggesting that the binding site is different from ARs. Several synthetic β -AR ligands including $\beta 3$ -AR agonists (BRL-35135A, SR-58611A and ICI-198157) showed affinity. Atypical effects that could not be explained by $\beta 3$ -AR can be resolved by the existence of this binding site. Indeed, similar binding sites under blockade of β -ARs and serotonin receptors were observed in rat skeletal muscle membranes.

- Biochemical characterization by photoaffinity-labeling study

The binding site in rat colon smooth muscle membranes was visualized by [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine, a photoaffinity ligand corresponding to [125 I]-ICYP. The apparent molecular size of the site was 34 kDa with an isoelectric point (pI) of 6.0. Deduced molecular sizes of rat β -ARs, serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{1B} receptors are 43.2 ~ 50.5 kDa ($\beta 1$ -AR, 50.5 kDa; $\beta 2$ -AR, 46.9 kDa; $\beta 3$ -AR, 43.2 kDa; 5-HT_{1A}, 46.4 kDa, 5-HT_{1B}, 43.2 kDa) (Machida et al., 1990; Gocayne et al., 1987; Muzzin P. et al., 1991; Granneman JG. et al., 1991; Albert A. et al., 1990; Fujiwara et al., 1990; Voigt et al., 1991). In cells or tissues, these receptors are normally glycosylated, then the sizes are usually bigger than the deduced sizes. In contrast, the size of 34 kDa seemed to be smaller than these cloned rat receptors. One explanation may be devoid of N-linked glycosylation. The isoelectric point indicates that the binding site is an acidic protein like β -ARs (Fraser C.M., 1984). Chemical cleavage at mostly methionine residues resulted in 10 and 12 kDa, and acid cleavage at mainly asparagine-proline bonds resulted in 8 kDa, indicating this protein contains methionine residues and may include asparagine-proline bonds.

Example 3: Isolation and characterization of the instant receptor in human skeletal muscle.

- Preparation of probes:

SEQ ID NO:6 has been compared to GenBank and EMBL data base by
 5 tblastn program (Altschul S.F. et al., 1990); in dbest data base, a human expressed
 sequence tag (EST) with almost 100% homology with SEQ ID NO:6 was found; it
 corresponds to SEQ ID NO:5, found in *H. sapiens* as a partial cDNA sequence, clone
 72F05, translated in frame 1 in the form of SEQ ID NO:5. However, it was not known
 whether or not said SEQ ID NO:5 could have any biological function..

10 In view to obtain the instant non-adrenergic receptor including SEQ ID
 NO:1, plasmid DNA containing human clone designated 72F05 (EMBL accession n°
 z28655) (Auffray C. et al., 1995), including the corresponding coding sequence of SEQ
 ID NO:5 was obtained from Genethon, France and was used for preparing probes useful
 for hybridization assays.

15 **900 bp probe (SEQ ID NO:3):**

Cutting said plasmid DNA with restriction endonuclease EcoRI (New
 England Biolabs ref. 101 S) released a 0.9 kb insert corresponding to clone 72F05. This
 fragment was isolated using QiaEX II agarose gel extraction kit (Qiagen ref. 20021).

300 bp probe (SEQ ID NO:4):

20 1) Design of sens and anti-sens primers for PCR:

sens primer: S4 (SEQ ID NO:7)

anti-sens primer: S6 (SEQ ID NO:8).

2) PCR on clone 72F05:

Amplification was performed on 1 ng of plasmid DNA corresponding to
 25 clone 72F05, in the presence of the following reagents: each primer at 0.25 μ M; 10%
 DMSO; 2.5 U of Taq polymerase (Promega); 0.25 mM of dNTP (dATP; dCTP; dGTP;
 dTTP); reaction buffer was supplied by Promega and supplemented with 1.5 mM MgCl₂.

PCR was performed on Perkin Elmer « Gene Amp PCR System 9600 »

using the following conditions:

4 min at 95°C

30 sec at 95°C

30 sec at 48°C

30 sec at 72°C

} 30 cycles

4 min at 72°C

Under these conditions, a 0.3 kb fragment corresponding to the published sequence of clone 72F05 was amplified. The fragment was isolated using
10 QiaEXII agarose gel extraction kit (Qiagen ref. 20021).

- Radiolabeling of probes:

By random priming (Feinberg et al., 1983) 50 µCi of dATP α32P (ICN ref. 39010 X) were incorporated to radiolabel DNA fragments.

- Northern blot:

15 A human multiple tissue northern blot was purchased from Clontech (ref. 7765-1).

This blot ready to hybridize contained in each lane approximately 2µg of polyadenylated mRNA from 8 different human muscles (smooth and striated):

20 lane 1-8 in order: human skeletal muscle, uterus (no endometrium), colon (no mucosa), small intestine, bladder, heart, stomach, and prostate (see figure 18).

The membrane was hybridized following the suppliers instructions with labeled 300 bp probe (SEQ ID NO:4) (10⁶ cpm/ml) during 24 hours.

Washes were carried out under different stringency:

1) low stringency: 2x SSC; 0.05% S.D.S. at room temperature.

25 Exposition of Amersham Hyperfilm MP at -80°C for 3 days using two intensifying screens showed three different fragments: 2 major bands are present in all samples; one at 3.4 kb and one at 3.8 kb. One fainter band, around 7 kb is found in all samples.

2) high stringency: 0.1 x SSC; 0.05% S.D.S. at 50°C; same exposition showed the same fragments in all samples.

The results are illustrated in figure 18 (same results with low or high stringency).

5 The visualized mRNAs correspond to SMBP transcripts. One explanation for the presence of 3 different transcripts could possibly be the utilization of alternative polyadenylation sites on SMBP gene (Intervening Sequences in Evolution and Development; E.M. Stone and R.J. Schwartz Oxford University Press 1990).

- Cloning of human cDNA:

10 A human skeletal muscle cDNA library was purchased from Clontech (ref. HL 300s; lot 32288). 500,000 clones were transferred to nylon membranes (Hybond N+; Amersham) and screened by hybridizing either with probe 300 bp (SEQ ID NO:4) or with probe 900 bp (SEQ ID NO:3).

Hybridization conditions were:

15 600 mM NaCl; 60 mM Na-citrate; 8 mM Tris-HCl pH 7,5; 50 mM Na-phosphate; 1% Ficoll; 1% polyvinylpyrrolidone; 1% bovine serum albumine; 40% formamide; 0.2% SDS; 50 µg/ml salmon sperm DNA.

Radiolabeled probe was added at 10^6 cpm/ml and incubated overnight at 42°C.

20 Final washes were at 50°C; 0.1 x SSC; 0.05% SDS for 1 hour.

11 positive clones were identified by repeated rounds of screening.

Insert sizes were analyzed by simultaneous cutting with the following restriction endonucleases: Xba I/Hind III and Xba I/Bam HI (New England Biolabs). These enzymes released cDNA inserts from the vector pcDNA I (Invitrogen). All clones
25 were sequenced with T7 and SP6 primers from both ends and found to be overlapping.

The longest cDNA insert (clones n°24 and n°15) was about 1.7 kb and the smallest was about 0.65 kb (clone n°2).

Clone 24 was sequenced on both strands using T7 and SP6 primers and the following specific primers:

Plus strand primers:

S4: SEQ ID NO:7

S6: SEQ ID NO:8

S8: SEQ ID NO: 9

5

Minus strand primers:

S5: SEQ ID NO:10

S7: SEQ ID NO:11

S9: SEQ ID NO:12.

DNA sequencing data showed a continuous open reading frame (SEQ ID NO:2); translation into protein sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) showed several hydrophobic stretches (figure 22), suggesting that these regions are putative membrane spanning parts of the protein.

Example 4: Construction of a plasmid for the expression of Hu-SMBP.

For *in vitro* expression in mammalian cells, 1.7 kb cDNA insert of clone 15 24 was subcloned into the mammalian expression vector pcDNA3 (Invitrogen). Simultaneous cutting by restriction endonuclease Xba I and Hind III (New England Biolabs) released the 1.7 kb insert from the pcDNA I vector (see example 3). The fragment was then blunt ended using Klenow fragment (Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning, 2nd edition, 1, 5.40) and purified on 0.7% agarose gel using QiaEX II agarose 20 gel extraction kit (Qiagen ref. 20021).

Vector pcDNA3 was cut in the multisite linker by Eco RV (New England Biolabs) and dephosphorylated using calf intestinal alkaline phosphatase (New England Biolabs). After heat inactivation of phosphatase, the vector and the insert were ligated using T4 DNA ligase (New England Biolabs). Subclone 3 was selected 25 (designated as clone n°24.3). This plasmid contains at least SEQ ID NO:2.

Said recombinant plasmid may be transfected into mammalian cell lines for *in vitro* expression.

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10 As emerges from the foregoing, the invention is no way limited to those of its embodiments and modes of implementation and application which have just been described more explicitly; it encompasses, on the contrary, all variants which may occur to the specialist in the field, without departure from the scope or range of the present invention.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

(i) APPLICANT:

- (A) NAME: VETIGEN
- (B) STREET: 18 RUE DE LOURMEL
- (C) CITY: PARIS
- (E) COUNTRY: FRANCE
- (F) POSTAL CODE (ZIP): 75015

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: NOVEL ICYP BINDING MAMMALIAN POLYPEPTIDE RECEPTOR (SMBP) AND ITS APPLICATIONS.

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 12

(iv) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:

- (A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
- (B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
- (C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
- (D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.30 (EPO)

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 439 amino acids
- (B) TYPE: amino acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 1:

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Met Tyr Ile Asp Asp Leu Pro Ile Trp Gly Ile Val Gly Glu Ala Asp
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Glu Asn Gly Glu Asp Tyr Tyr Leu Trp Thr Tyr Lys Lys Leu Glu Ile
20           25           30
Gly Phe Asn Gly Asn Arg Ile Val Asp Val Asn Leu Thr Ser Glu Gly
35           40           45
Lys Val Lys Leu Val Pro Asn Thr Lys Ile Gln Met Ser Tyr Ser Val
50           55           60
Lys Trp Lys Lys Ser Asp Val Lys Phe Glu Asp Arg Phe Asp Lys Tyr
65           70           75           80
Leu Asp Pro Ser Phe Phe Gln His Arg Ile His Trp Phe Ser Ile Phe
85           90           95

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Leu	Met	Arg	Thr	Leu	Arg	Lys	Asp	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Tyr	Ser	Lys	Glu	Glu		
		115					120					125					
Glu	Met	Asp	Asp	Met	Asp	Arg	Asp	Leu	Gly	Asp	Glu	Tyr	Gly	Trp	Lys		
	130					135					140						
Gln	Val	His	Gly	Asp	Val	Phe	Arg	Pro	Ser	Ser	His	Pro	Leu	Ile	Phe		
145					150					155					160		
Ser	Ser	Leu	Ile	Gly	Ser	Gly	Cys	Gln	Ile	Phe	Ala	Val	Ser	Leu	Ile		
				165					170						175		
Val	Ile	Ile	Val	Ala	Met	Ile	Glu	Asp	Leu	Tyr	Thr	Glu	Arg	Gly	Ser		
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Met	Leu	Ser	Thr	Ala	Ile	Phe	Val	Tyr	Ala	Ala	Thr	Ser	Pro	Val	Asn		
		195					200					205					
Gly	Tyr	Phe	Gly	Gly	Ser	Leu	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Gln	Gly	Gly	Arg	Arg	Trp		
	210					215					220						
Ile	Lys	Gln	Met	Phe	Ile	Gly	Ala	Phe	Leu	Ile	Pro	Ala	Met	Val	Cys		
225					230					235					240		
Gly	Thr	Ala	Phe	Phe	Ile	Asn	Phe	Ile	Ala	Ile	Tyr	Tyr	His	Ala	Ser		
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Arg	Ala	Ile	Pro	Phe	Gly	Thr	Met	Val	Ala	Val	Cys	Cys	Ile	Cys	Phe		
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Phe	Val	Ile	Leu	Pro	Leu	Asn	Leu	Val	Gly	Thr	Ile	Leu	Gly	Arg	Asn		
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	290					295					300						
Pro	Ile	Pro	Glu	Lys	Lys	Trp	Phe	Met	Glu	Pro	Ala	Val	Ile	Val	Cys		
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Leu	Gly	Gly	Ile	Leu	Pro	Phe	Gly	Ser	Ile	Phe	Ile	Glu	Met	Tyr	Phe		
				325					330					335			
Ile	Phe	Thr	Ser	Phe	Trp	Ala	Tyr	Lys	Ile	Tyr	Tyr	Val	Tyr	Gly	Phe		
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Met	Met	Leu	Val	Leu	Val	Ile	Leu	Cys	Ile	Val	Thr	Val	Cys	Val	Thr		
		355					360						365				
Ile	Val	Cys	Thr	Tyr	Phe	Leu	Leu	Asn	Ala	Glu	Asp	Tyr	Arg	Trp	Gln		
	370					375					380						
Trp	Thr	Ser	Phe	Leu	Ser	Ala	Ala	Ser	Thr	Ala	Ile	Tyr	Val	Tyr	Met		
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Tyr Ser Phe Tyr Tyr Tyr Phe Phe Lys Thr Lys Met Tyr Gly Leu Phe
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Gln Thr Ser Phe Tyr Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Val Phe Ser Thr Ala Leu
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Gly Ile Met Cys Gly Ala Ile
 435

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 2:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 (A) LENGTH: 1317 base pairs
 (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 2:

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GATGTTAATC TAACTAGTGA AGGAAAGGTG AACTGGTTC CAAATACTAA AATCCAGATG	180
TCATATTCAG TAAATGGAA AAAGTCAGAT GTGAAATTTG AAGATCGATT TGACAAATAT	240
CTTGATCCGT CCTTTTTTCA ACATCGGATT CATTGGTTTT CAATTTTCAA CTCCTTCATG	300
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TATGCTCGGT ACAGTAAAGA GGAAGAAATG GATGATATGG ATAGAGACCT AGGAGATGAA	420
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TCCTCTCTGA TTGGTTCTGG ATGTCAGATA TTTGCTGTGT CTCTCATCGT TATTATTGTT	540
GCAATGATAG AAGATTTATA TACTGAGAGG GGATCAATGC TCAGTACAGC CATATTTGTC	600
TATGCTGCTA CGTCTCCAGT GAATGGTTAT TTTGGAGGAA GTCTGTATGC TAGACAAGGA	660
GGAAGGAGAT GGATAAAGCA GATGTTTATT GGGGCATTCC TTATCCCAGC TATGGTGTGT	720

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GCTGTGCCTC GTCCTATACC GGAGAAAAA TGGTTCATGG AGCCTGCGGT TATTGTTTGC	960
CTGGGTGGAA TTTTACCTTT TGGTTCAATC TTTATTGAAA TGTATTTTCAT CTTCACGTCT	1020
TTCTGGGCAT ATAAGATCTA TTATGTCTAT GGCTTCATGA TGCTGGTGCT GGTTATCCTG	1080
TGCATTGTGA CTGTCTGTGT GACTATTGTG TGCACATATT TTCTACTAAA TGCAGAAGAT	1140
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TATTCCTTTT ACTACTATTT TTTCAAACA AAGATGTATG GCTTATTTC AATCATTTT	1260
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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 3:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 965 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear
- (ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 3:

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GAAGA	965

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 4:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
- (A) LENGTH: 285 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: cDNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 4:

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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 5:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 17 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 5:

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Ser

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 6:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 17 amino acids
 - (B) TYPE: amino acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
 - (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: peptide

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 6:

Asp	Pro	Xaa	Phe	Phe	Gln	His	Arg	Ile	His	Val	Phe	Ser	Ile	Phe	Asn
1				5				10					15		

His

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 7:

- (i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
 - (A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
 - (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
 - (C) STRANDEDNESS: single

(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid
(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 7:

TCAGTAAAAT GGAAAAAGTC

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 8:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid
(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 8:

TGGGTGACTT GATGGTCTAA

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 19 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid
(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 9:

GCTGTGTCTC TCATCGTTA

19

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 10:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 20 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid
(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 10:

CCATCCATAT TCATCTCCTA

20

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 21 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid

(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 11:

CGGTATAGGA CGAGGCACAG C

21

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO: 12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

- (A) LENGTH: 18 base pairs
- (B) TYPE: nucleic acid
- (C) STRANDEDNESS: single
- (D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: other nucleic acid

(A) DESCRIPTION: /desc = "PRIMER"

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO: 12:

ACTGAATATG ACATCTGG

18

CLAIMS

1°) Substantially pure mammal polypeptide, characterized in that it contains sites such that when said sites are exposed at the surface of a cell, they are able
5 of binding iodocyanopindolol (ICYP) under blockade of α , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 -AR, serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and serotonin 5-HT_{1B} receptors, said binding being saturable, reversible and able to be displaced by a β -adrenergic receptor agonist SM-11044 with stereoselectivity but not by isoproterenol, norepinephrine, epinephrine, serotonin, dopamine or BRL-37344, said polypeptide (1) having an apparent molecular weight of about 30-40 kDa when labeled
10 with ¹²⁵I-iodocyanopindolol after photoaffinity labeling and separation by electrophoresis and an apparent molecular weight of about 60-80 kDa in Western blot, and (2) generating a fragment having the following formula DPX₁FFQHRIHX₂FSIFNX₃ by acidic cleavage, wherein, X₁ represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or X (SEQ ID N°6), X₂ represents V (SEQ ID N°6) or W (SEQ ID N°5) and X₃ represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or H (SEQ ID N°6), said
15 polypeptide being present at least on muscles and eosinophils membranes and being a non-adrenergic receptor.

2°) The polypeptide according to claim 1, characterized in that it contains at least SEQ ID NO:1.

3°) An isolated and purified nucleic acid sequence, characterized in that
20 it encodes a mammalian receptor as claimed in claim 1.

4°) The isolated and purified nucleic acid sequence of claim 3, characterized in that it includes at least SEQ ID NO:2.

5°) The purified nucleic acid sequence according to claim 3 or claim 4, characterized in that it hybridizes with SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4.

25 6°) cDNA clones, characterized in that they comprise a sequence coding for the instant non-adrenergic receptor according to claim 1.

7°) Synthetic or non-synthetic nucleotide probes, characterized in that they hybridize with a nucleic acid according to claims 3 to 6 or with their complementary

sequences or their corresponding RNA, these probes being such that they do not hybridize with the genes or the messenger RNA coding for β -adrenergic receptors.

8°) Probes according to claim 7, characterized in that they are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:7 to SEQ ID NO:12, optionally labeled using a label such as a radioactive isotope, a suitable enzyme or a fluorochrome.

9°) Primers for amplifying a nucleic acid sequence according to claims 3 to 6, characterized in that they are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:7 to SEQ ID NO:12.

10°) A recombinant plasmid in particular for cloning and/or expression, containing a nucleic acid sequence according to claims 3 to 6 at one of its cloning sites non essential for its replication.

11°) The recombinant plasmid according to claim 10, characterized in that it further comprises an origin of replication for replication in a host cell, at least one gene whose expression permits selection of said host cell transformed with said plasmid, and a regulatory sequence, including a promoter permitting expression of a polypeptide having a non-adrenergic activity as defined hereabove, in said host cell.

12°) The recombinant plasmid according to claim 10, characterized in that said plasmid is pcDNA3 into which is inserted, in a multisite linker, SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said plasmid is deposited with the Collection Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes [National Collection of Microorganism Cultures] (CNCM held by the PASTEUR INSTITUTE, dated December 10, 1996, under No. I-1795.

13°) A host cell transformed by a recombinant plasmid according to claims 10 to 12, characterized in that it comprises the elements of regulation making possible the expression of the nucleotide sequence coding for the instant polypeptide in this host.

14°) The host cell according to claim 13, characterized in that it consists, in particular, in mammalian cell lines.

15°) Antibodies directed specifically against the instant polypeptide according to claim 1, these antibodies being such that they recognize neither known α or β -adrenergic, nor serotonin, nor dopamine receptors.

16°) A method for assaying a substance for agonist or antagonist activity
5 towards a polypeptide according to claim 1, which method comprises:

- placing the substance in contact with tissue membrane proteins or a transformed host cell expressing a polypeptide according to claim 1 under conditions which permit binding between said polypeptide binding sites and an agonist or an antagonist thereto and

10 - measuring an appropriate transduction signal.

17°) A process for studying the binding affinity of a compound for a polypeptide according to claim 1, which process comprises:

- transforming a host cell by an expression vector comprising a nucleotide sequence coding for the instant receptor,

15 - culturing said transformed host cell under conditions which permit the expression or said receptor encoded by said nucleotide sequence and the transfer of the expressed receptor polypeptide to the membrane of the said transformed host cell so that transmembrane sequences of said receptor polypeptide are embedded in the cell membranes of the transformed host cell;

20 - placing said transformed host cell in contact with said compound and
- measuring the quantity of said compound bond to said receptor polypeptide.

18°) A process for studying the binding affinity of a compound for a polypeptide according to claim 1, which process comprises:

25 - extracting membrane proteins corresponding to the instant receptor polypeptide from appropriate tissues or cells such as muscles,

- placing said membrane proteins in contact with said compound and
- measuring the quantity of said compound bond to said receptor polypeptide.

19°) Method of preparation of a polypeptide according to claim 1, which method comprises:

- preparing membrane proteins from a tissue containing the instant polypeptide, such as rat colon or human skeletal muscle,
- 5 - labeling said membrane proteins with [125 I]-ICYP-diazirine or another appropriate marker under blockade of α , β 1, β 2, β 3-AR and serotonin receptors,
- separating said labeled proteins by preparative SDS-PAGE electrophoresis and
- extracting the radioactive band.

ABSTRACT

An isolated and substantially pure mammal polypeptide different from known adrenergic, serotonin and dopamine receptors, existing at least on mammalian muscle and eosinophils membranes, for instance in rat, guinea pig and humans.

5 The invention also relates to plasmids containing the genes coding for said polypeptide, to host cells transformed by genes coding for the above mentioned polypeptide, to nucleotide probes capable of hybridizing with the genes coding for the above mentioned polypeptide, and to polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies directed against the above mentioned polypeptide.

10 Said polypeptide is characterized in that it contains sites such that when said sites are exposed at the surface of a cell, they are able of binding iodocyanopindolol (ICYP) under blockade of α , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 -AR, serotonin 5-HT_{1A} and serotonin 5-HT_{1B} receptors, said binding being saturable, reversible and able to be displaced by a β -adrenergic receptor agonist SM-11044 with stereoselectivity but not by isoproterenol, norepinephrine, epinephrine, serotonin, dopamine or BRL-37344, said polypeptide (1) having an apparent molecular weight of about 30-40 kDa when labeled with ¹²⁵I-iodocyanopindolol after photoaffinity labeling and separation by electrophoresis and an apparent molecular weight of about 60-80 kDa in Western blot, and (2) generating a fragment having the following formula DPX₁FFQHRIHX₂FSIFNX₃ by acidic cleavage, 15 wherein, X₁ represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or X (SEQ ID N°6), X₂ represents V (SEQ ID N°6) or W (SEQ ID N°5) and X₃ represents S (SEQ ID N°5) or H (SEQ ID N°6), said polypeptide being present at least on muscles and eosinophils membranes and being a non-adrenergic receptor. 20

1/26

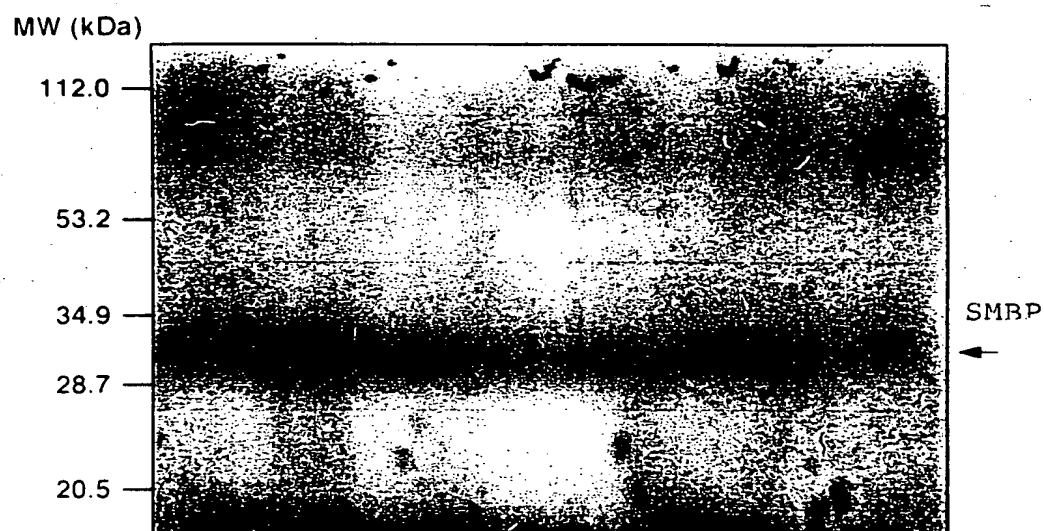
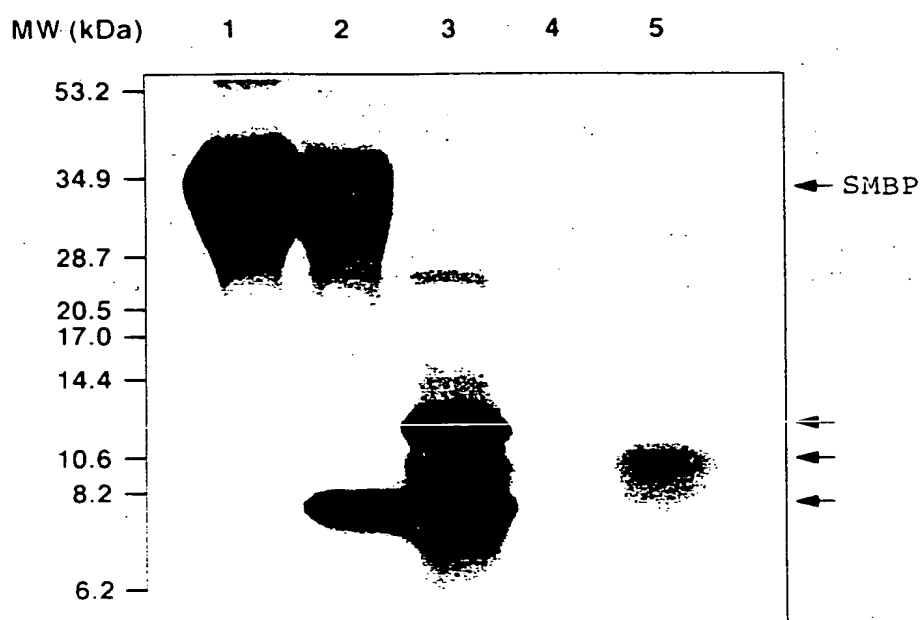


FIGURE 1

FIGURE 2

3/26

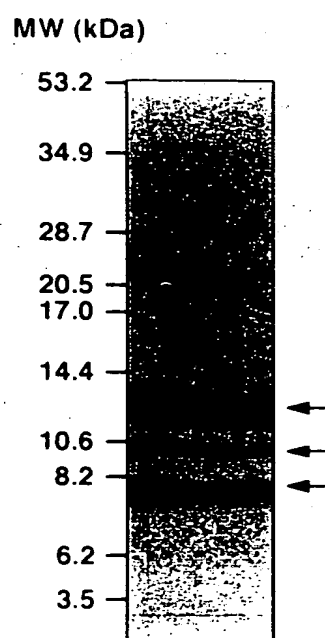


FIGURE 3

4/26

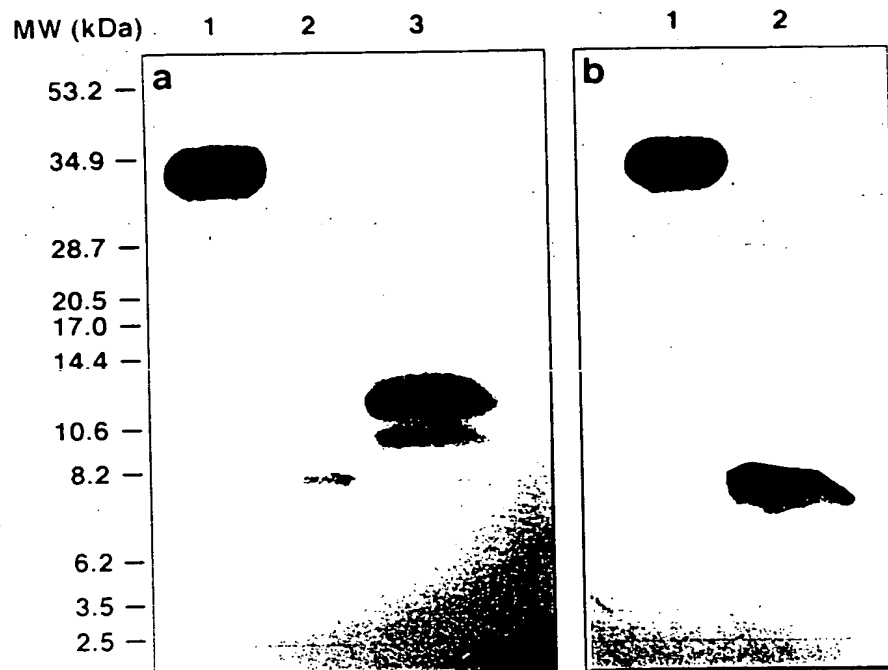


FIGURE 4

5/26

MW (kDa)

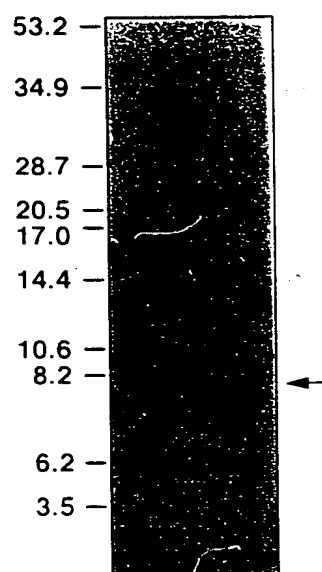


FIGURE 5

6/26

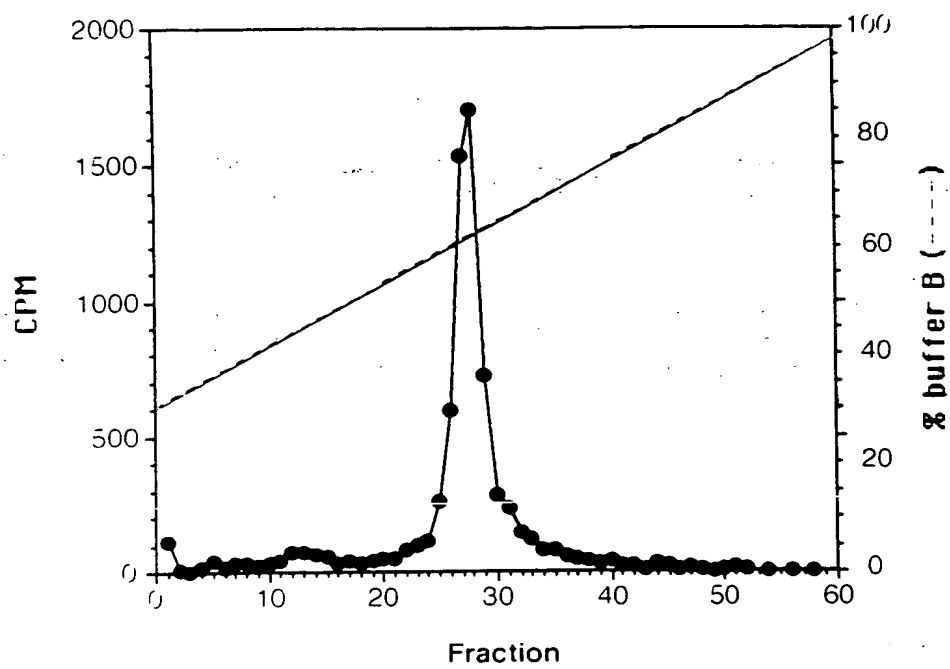


FIGURE 6

7/26

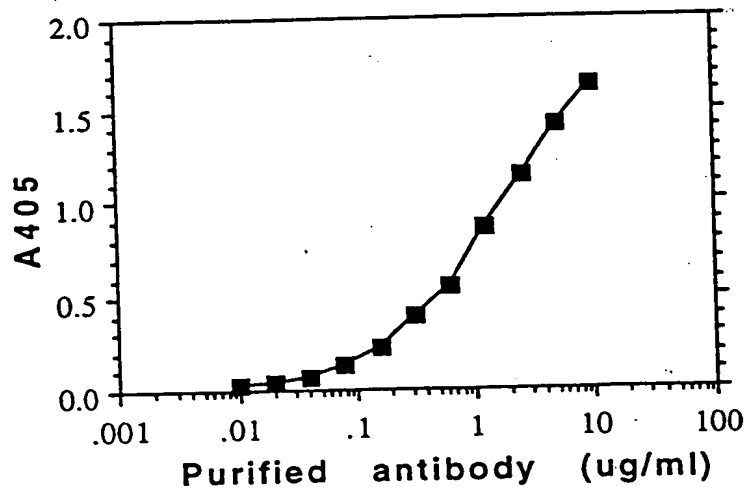
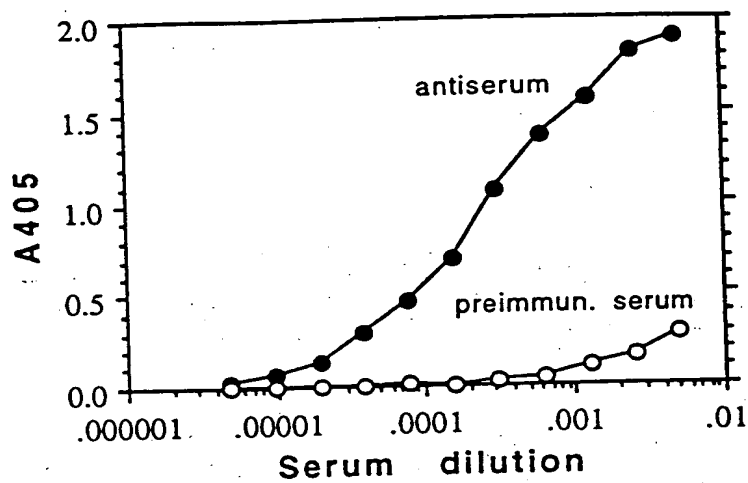


FIGURE 7

8/26

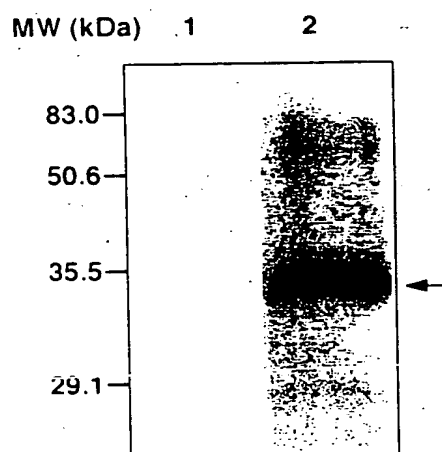


FIGURE 8

9/26

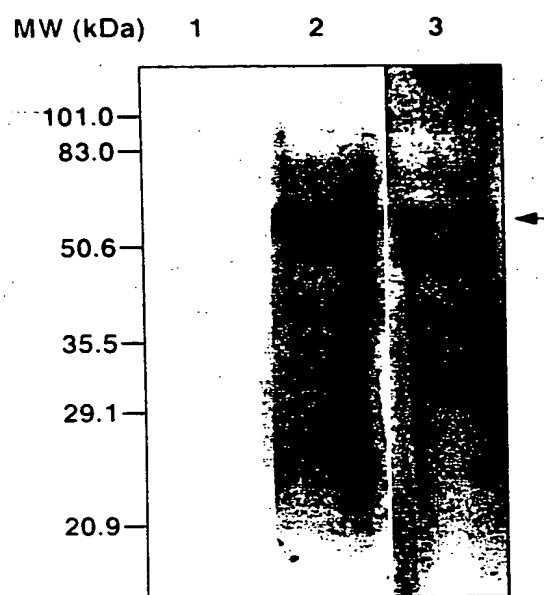


FIGURE 9

10/26

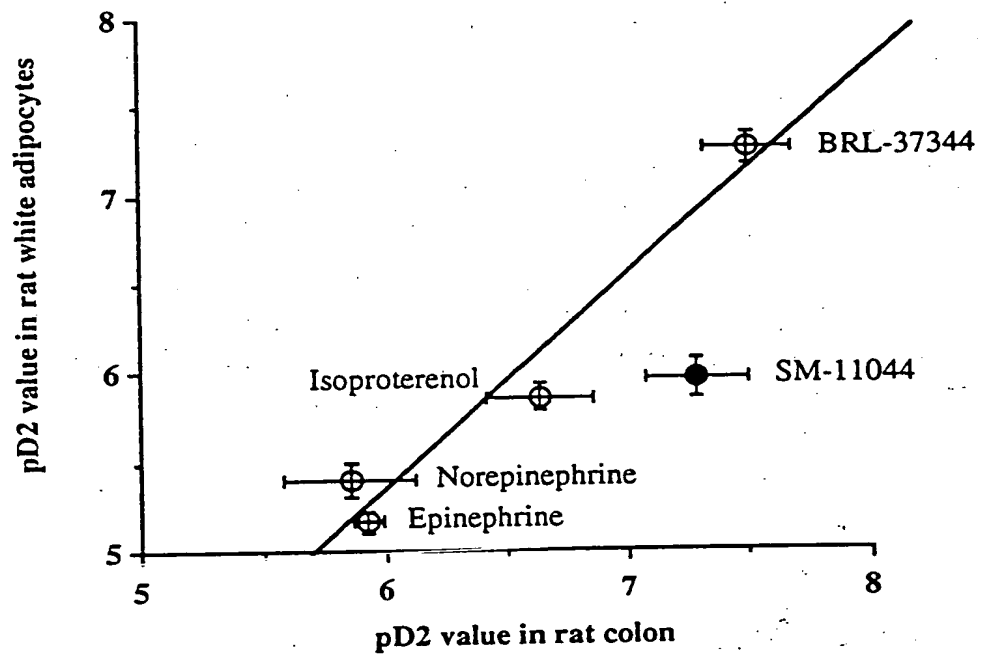


FIGURE 10

11/26

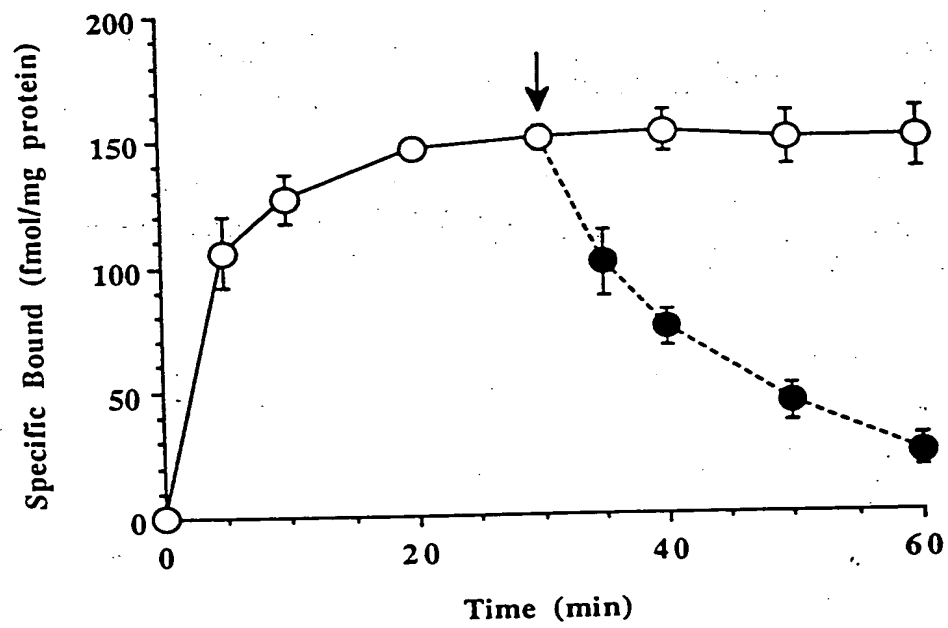


FIGURE 11

12/26

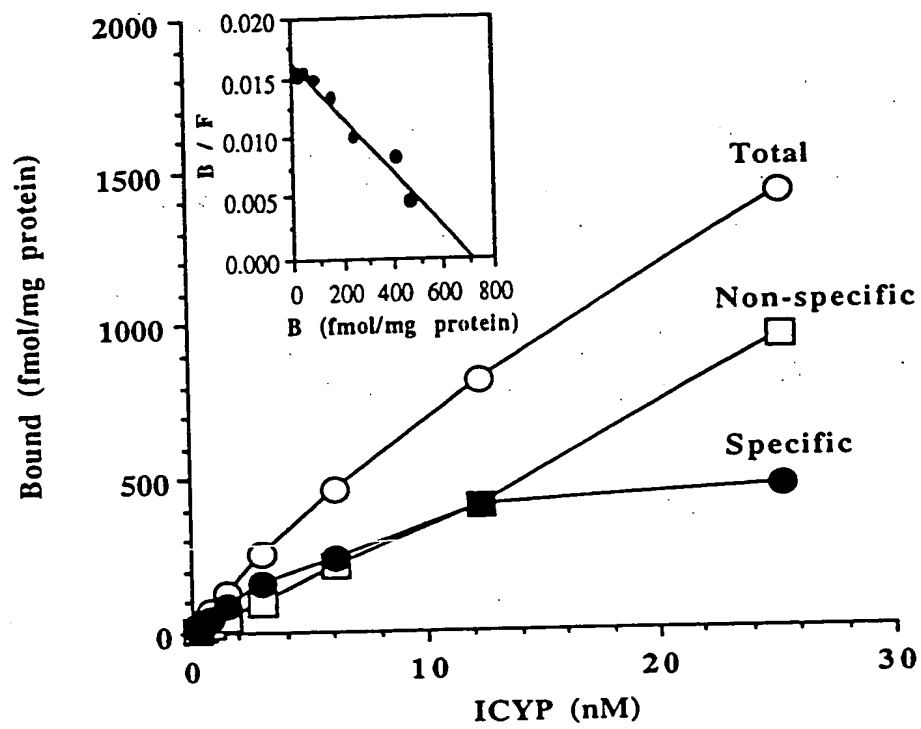


FIGURE 12

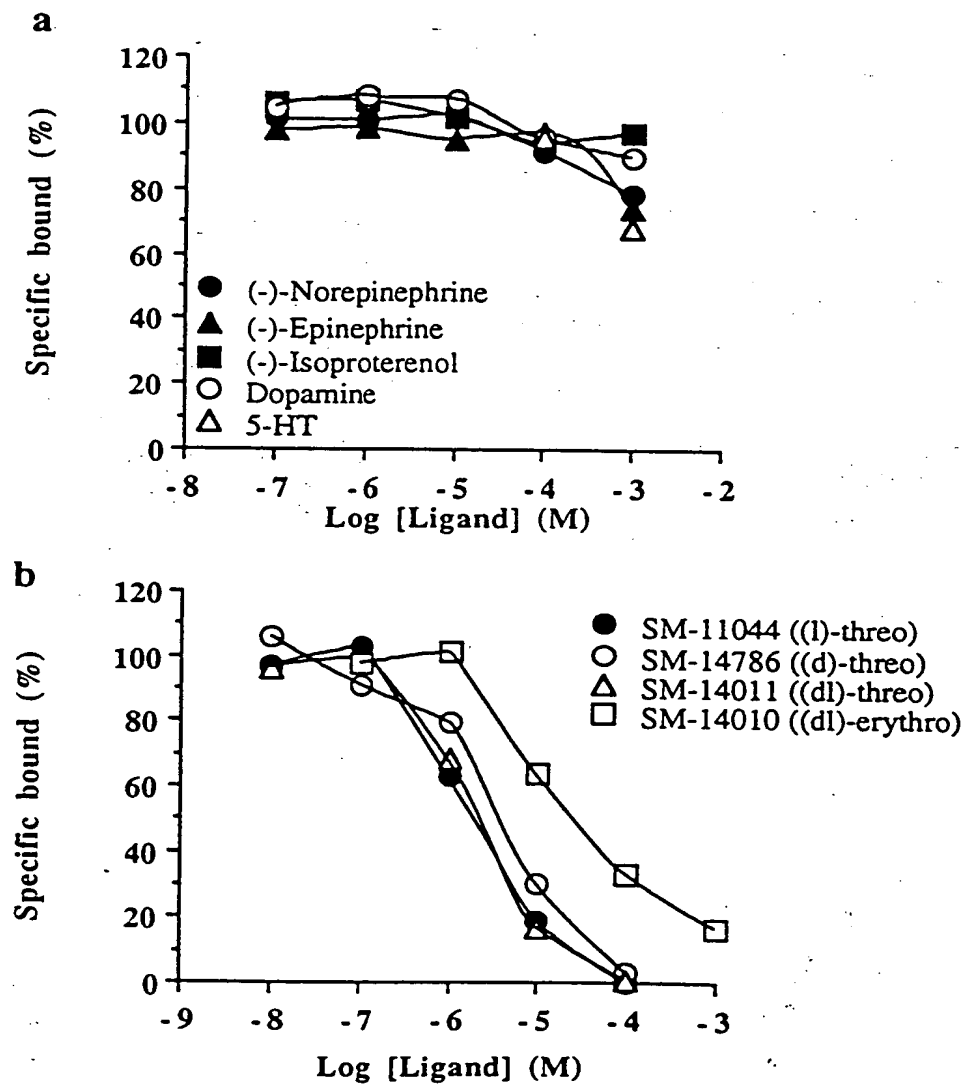


FIGURE 13

14/26

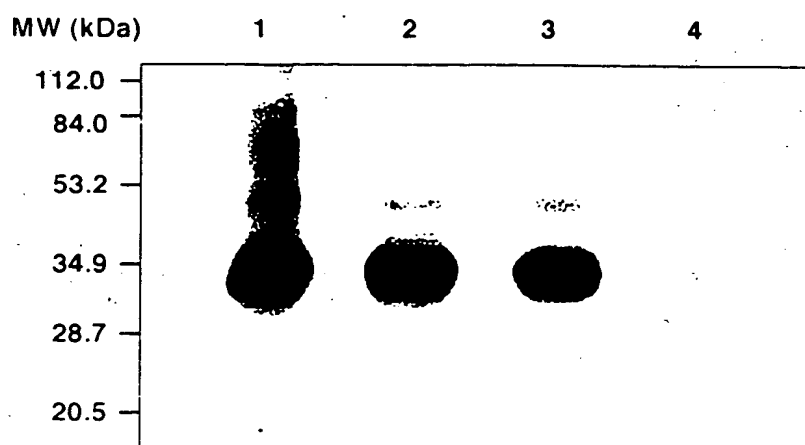


FIGURE 14

15/26

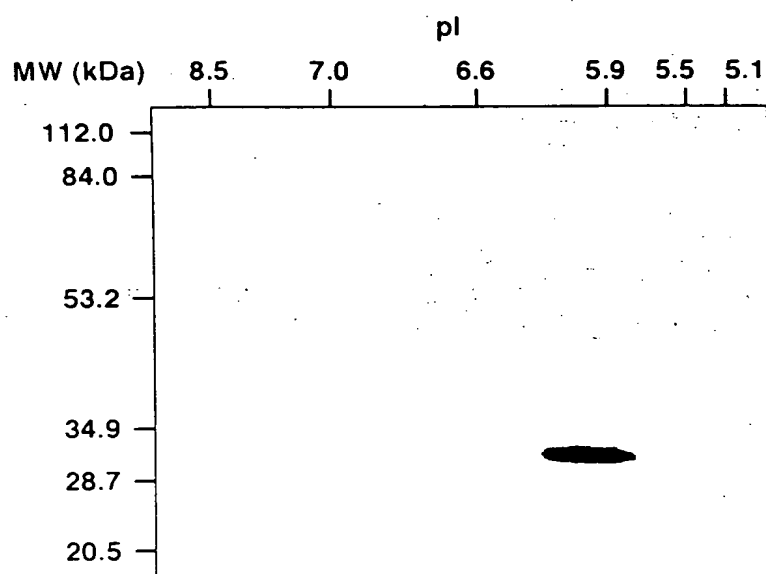


FIGURE 15

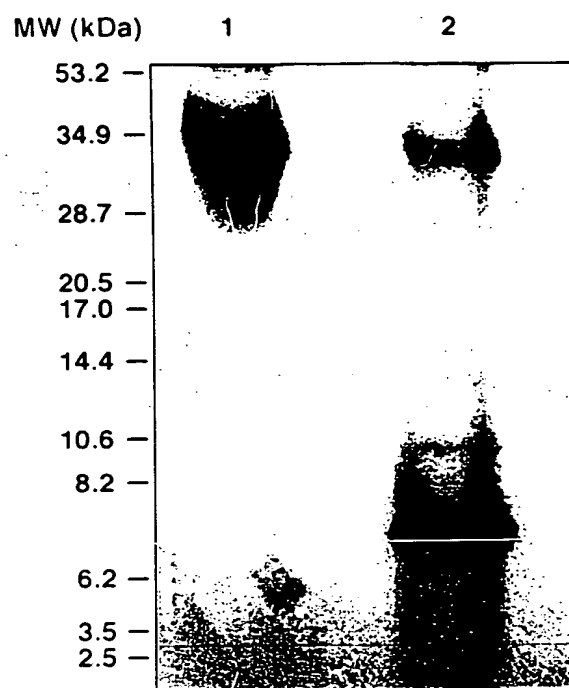


FIGURE 16

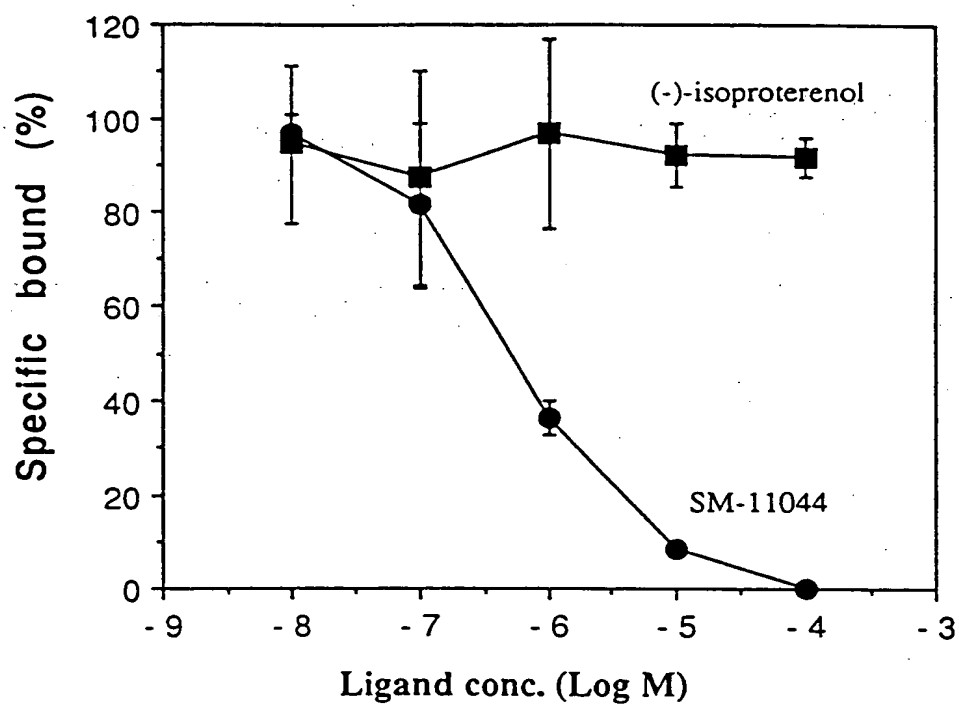


FIGURE 17

18/26

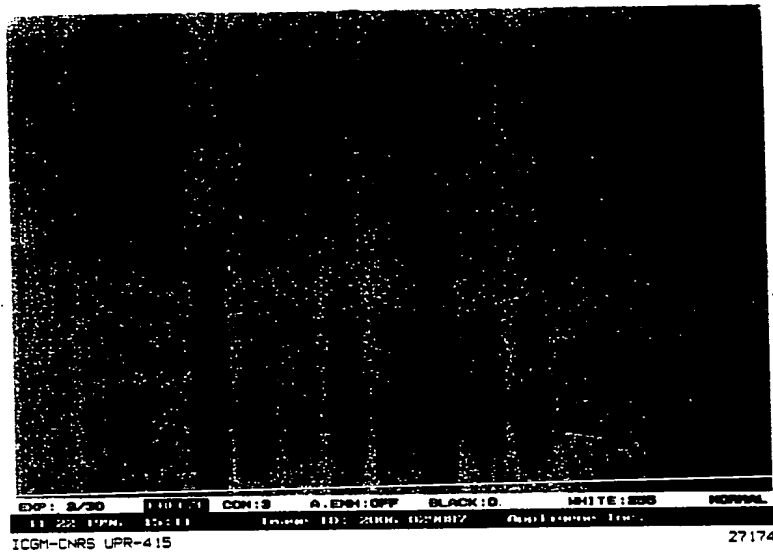


FIGURE 18

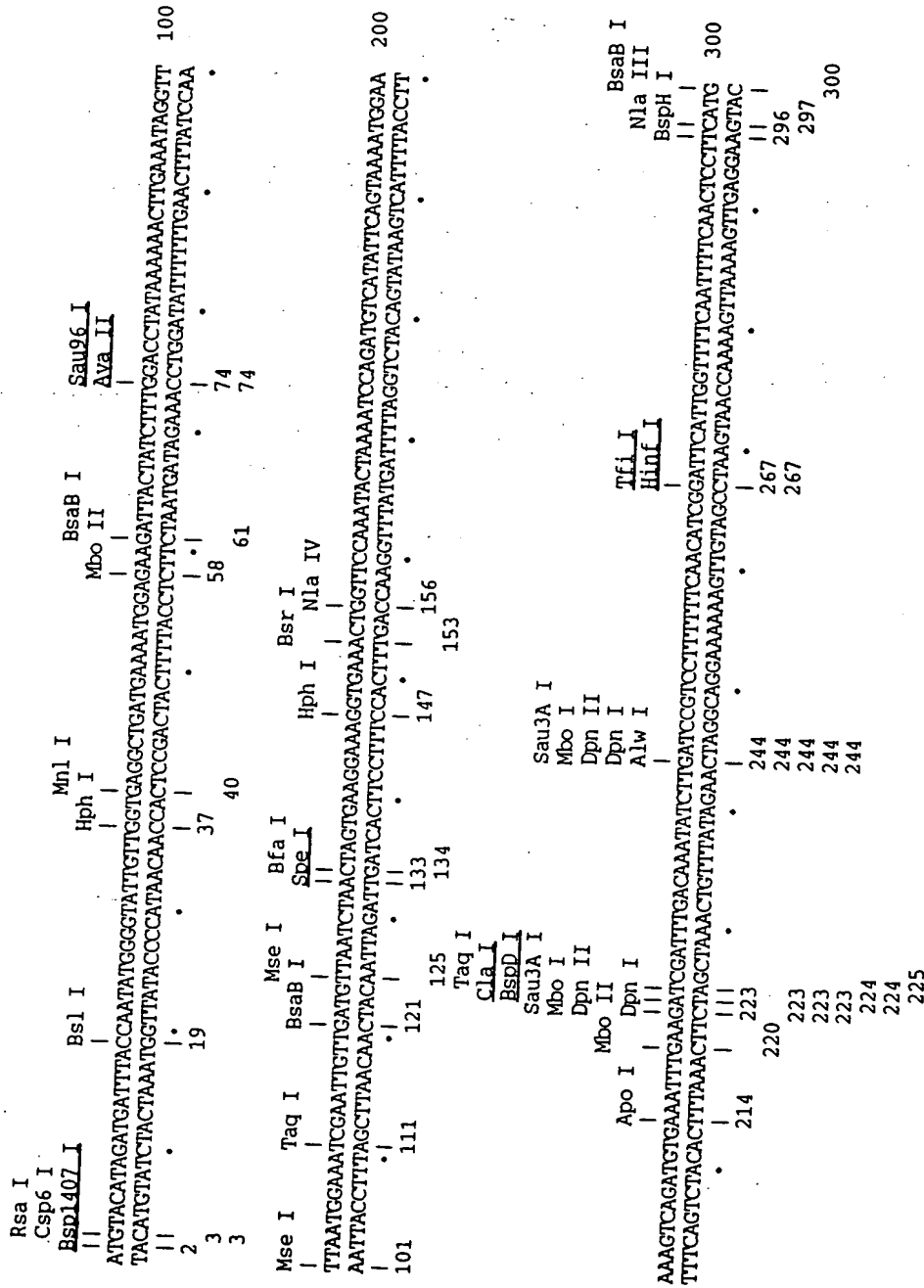


FIGURE 19.1

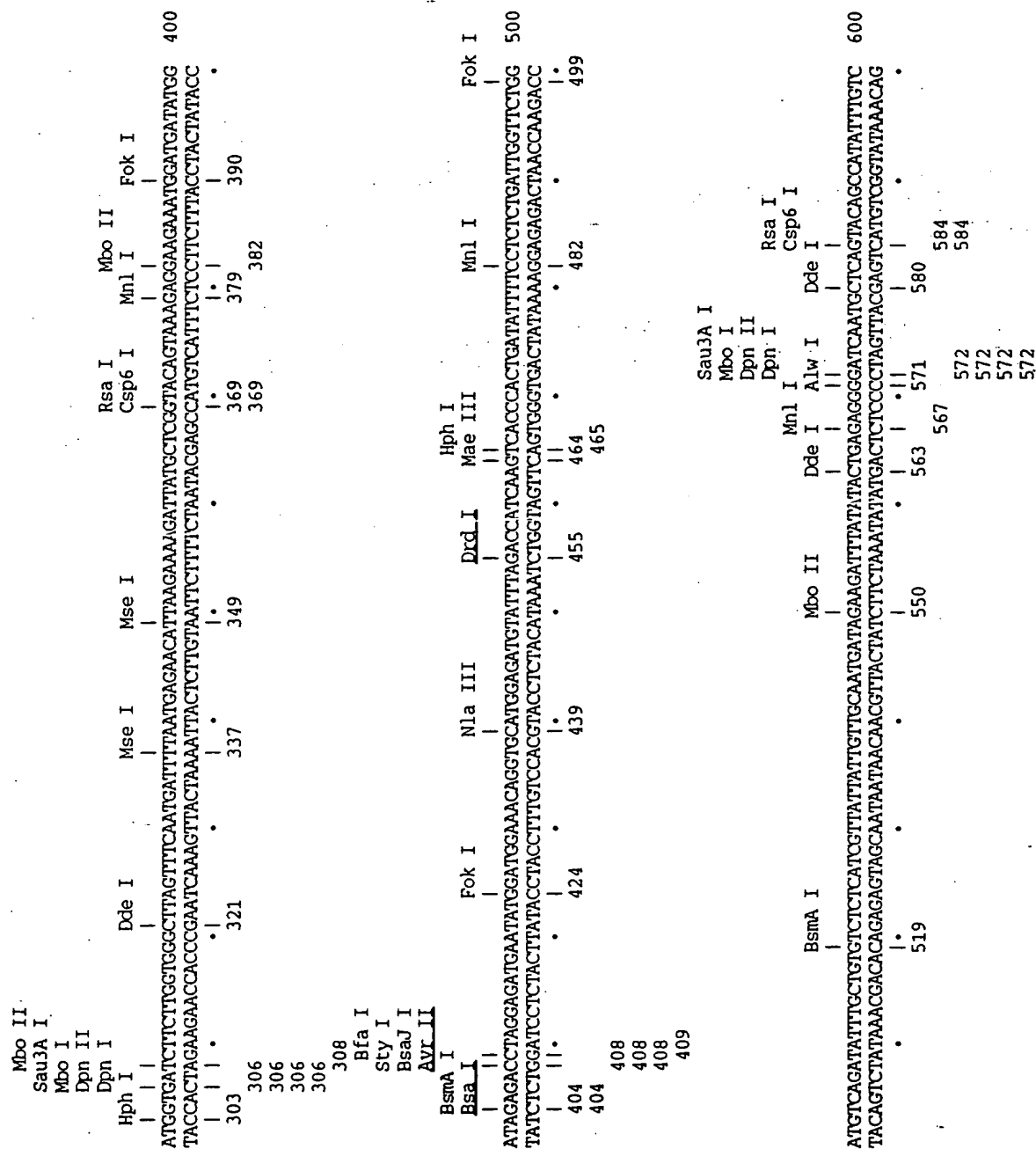


FIGURE 19.2



FIGURE 19.3

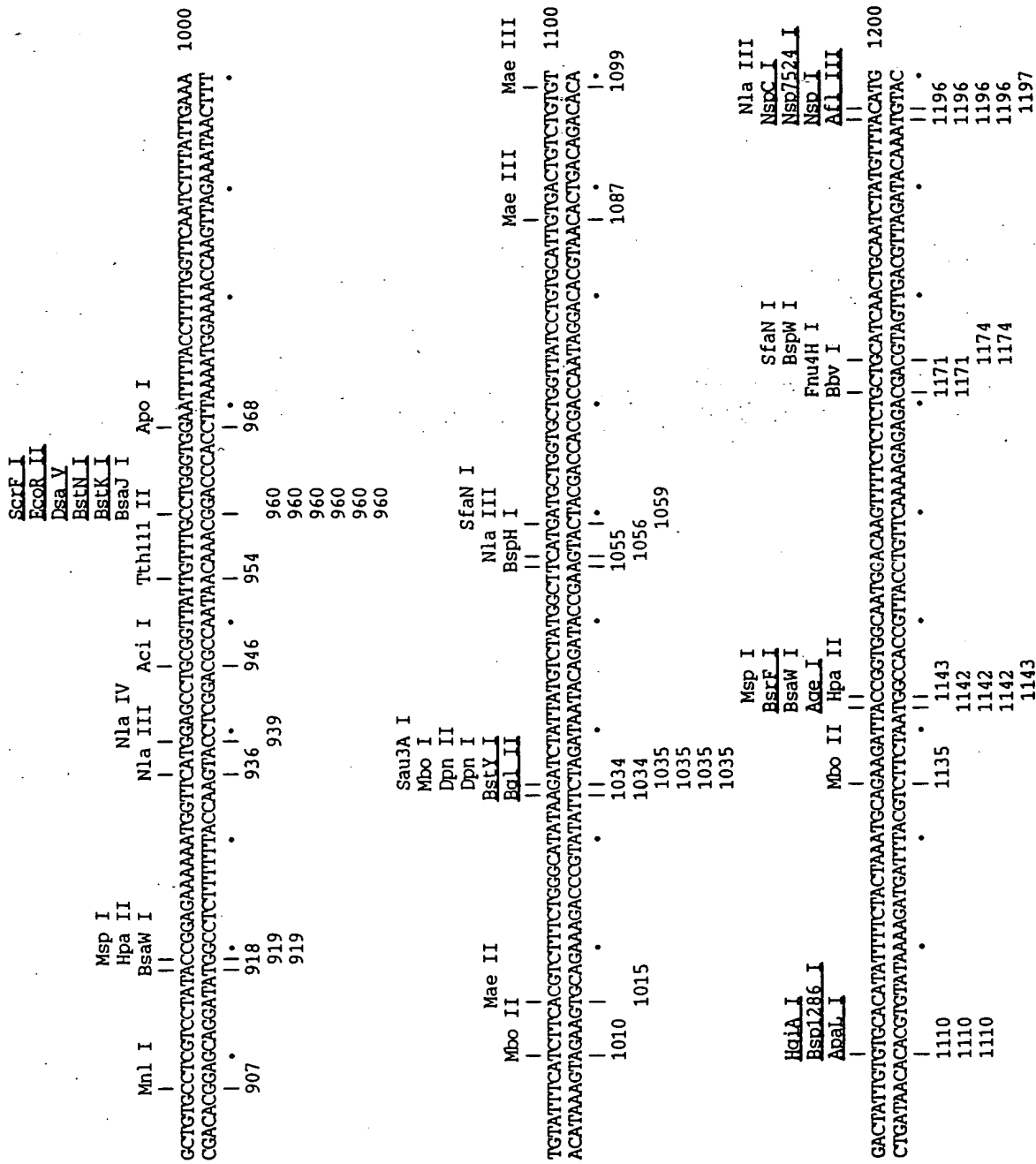


FIGURE 19.4

[illegible]

TAATGTCGTGGAGCGATT 1317
ATTACACACCTCGCTAA

FIGURE 19.5

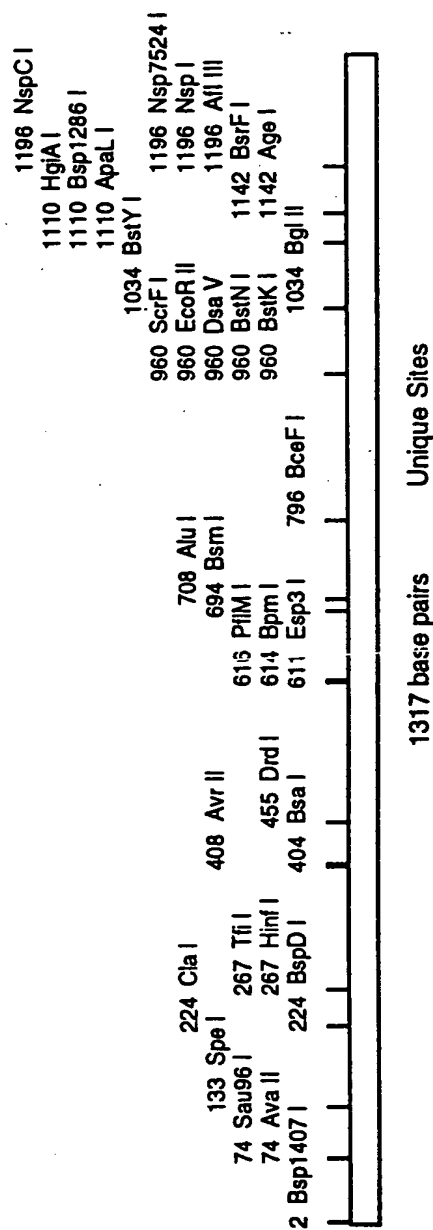
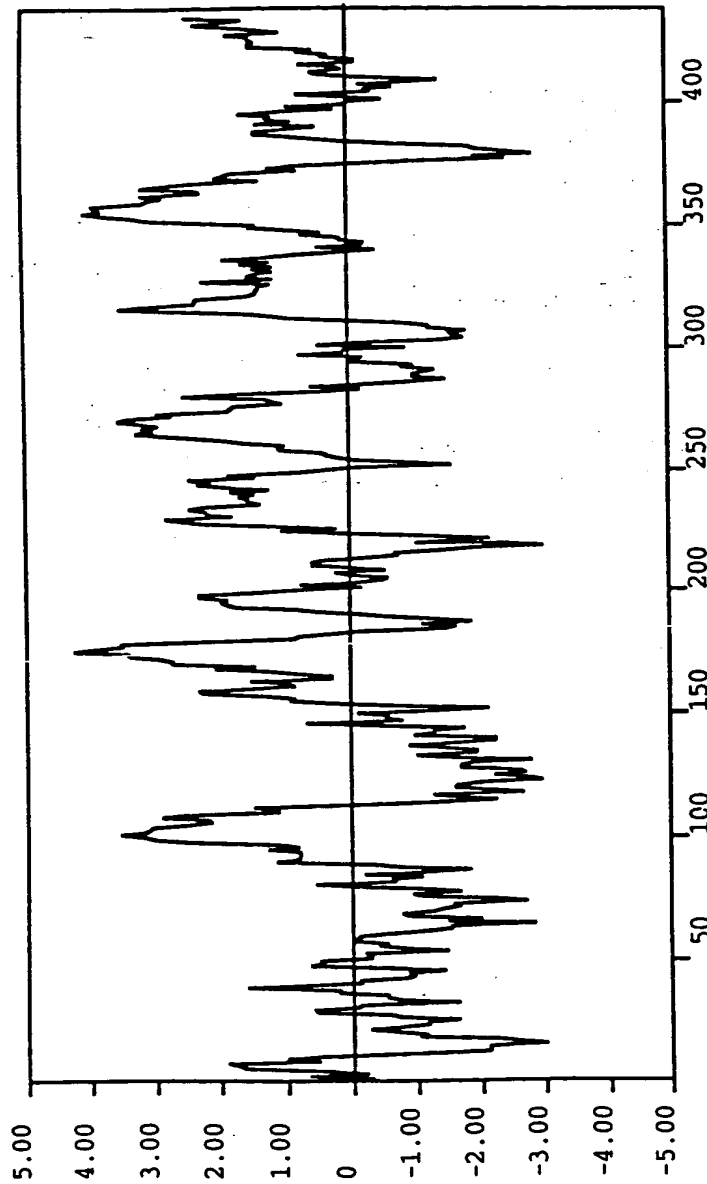


FIGURE 20

Enzyme	Site	<--	Pos.	-->
Bsp1407 I	t/gtaca	1	2	1316
Ava II	g/gwcc	73	74	1244
Sau96 I	g/gncc	73	74	1244
Spe I	a/ctagt	132	133	1185
BspD I	at/cgat	223	224	1094
Cla I	at/cgat	223	224	1094
Hinf I	g/antc	266	267	1051
Tfi I	g/awtc	266	267	1051
Bsa I	ggtctc 1/5	403	404	914
Avr II	c/ctagg	407	408	910
Drd I	gacnnnn/nngtc	454	455	863
Esp3 I	cgtctc 1/5	610	611	707
Bpm I	ctggag 16/14	613	614	704
PflM I	ccannnn/ntgg	615	616	702
Bsm I	gaatgc 1/-1	693	694	624
Alu I	ag/ct	707	708	610
BceF I	acggc 12/13	795	796	522
BstK I	c/cngg	959	960	358
BstN I	cc/wgg	959	960	358
Dsa V	/ccngg	959	960	358
EcoR II	/ccwgg	959	960	358
ScrF I	cc/ngg	959	960	358
Bgl II	a/gatct	1033	1034	284
BstY I	r/gatcy	1033	1034	284
ApaL I	g/tgcac	1109	1110	208
Bsp1286 I	gdgch/c	1109	1110	208
HgiA I	gwgcw/c	1109	1110	208
Age I	a/ccggt	1141	1142	176
BsrF I	r/ccggy	1141	1142	176
Afl III	a/crygt	1195	1196	122
Nsp I	rcatg/y	1195	1196	122
Nsp7524 I	r/catgy	1195	1196	122
NspC I	rcatg/y	1195	1196	122

FIGURE 21

FIGURE 22

